The National
October-November, 1978

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The National
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Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America
Volume 27 Number 1
October-November, 1978

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A Word With The Editor

FFA's Golden Anniversary Convention to be held in Kansas City, Missouri, November 7-10, will not be the final curtain on the "FFA at 50" celebration. The theme continues to National FFA WEEK in 1979, (February 17-24) with emphasis on a "Brighter Future." In addition, 29 state associations were chartered in 1929 and can celebrate their 50th in 1979, eight states in 1980 and three states in 1981. However, at present all roads lead to Kansas City and FFA's Golden Anniversary Convention which advanced billing indicates will be the greatest ever.

A word of thanks to Dan Reuwee, national FFA director of information, who turned in his resignation effective July 31 and quietly left town to take up residence in St. Louis, Missouri, where he will use his talents as manager of public relations for the American Soybean Association. Dan was director of information at the FFA for nine years. His talents were many, his contributions were numerous. Perhaps his work was best described by two colleagues. One said "Dan has made the entire program staff look good over the past nine years." Another said "You know, after all the work Dan did on publications, he left town without his name appearing on a single publication as author." But I guess that is part of what a good director of information does—spends his time making others—or an organization—look good. At that, Dan was a master. He takes with him FFA's thanks and best wishes in his new assignment.

Cheers for the newly appointed Deputy Commissioner of Education in charge of Vocational-Technical, Occupational and Adult Education in the U.S. Office of Education, Washington, D.C. He is Dr. Daniel Dunham who served as National FFA President in 1955-56. Prior to his appointment which became effective September 12, Dr. Dunham was serving as state director of Vocational Education in Maryland. He is a native of Oregon and operated a ranch in southeastern Oregon jointly with his parents until 1958. Later Dr. Dunham taught vocational agriculture for six years, was a local director of vocational education, a teacher-educator, state vocational education research director and assistant state director of Career and Vocational Education in Oregon prior to moving to Maryland. I'm sure all those associated with FFA join me in wishing him success in his new position.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Billie D. Parsons aims an injection as his son Glenn looks over the cows. Parsons was Regional Star Farmer for the Central Region in 1957 and he and his sons now run a ranch in South Dakota. See "An Example to Follow" on page 12. For this year's Star stories check out pages 21 and 22.
Cover photo by K. Elliott Nowels

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Looking Ahead

Agriculture

STRONG CONSUMER DEMAND FOR natural fibers helped the domestic apparel wool market rebound to 186 million pounds last year. The total included around 96 million pounds processed in U.S. mills. Wool consumption is expected to rebound further from the 1974 textile recession, although imports may account for an increasing share. On a per capita basis, U.S. wool use worked out to .86 pounds last year, up from .83 in 1976 and only .53 in 1974.

A CHANGE IN POLICY now gives state directors of the Farmers Home Administration the authority to make emergency loans through their county offices to any number of farmers showing a need for emergency credit to offset substantial loss caused by storm, flood, drouth or other natural disaster. The new policy of payment upon confirmation of natural disaster abolishes a time-consuming procedure that formerly required county government and state governors to request disaster loan service then for the Secretary of Agriculture to designate counties where FmHA emergency loans could be made.

FARMERS PLANTED FEWER ACRES to food and feed grains this year, but more land in oilseeds. The Crop Reporting Board estimates that feed grains were planted on 122 million acres, a drop of 5 percent from last season, while the roughly 72 million acres planted to food grains represented a 9 percent decline. In contrast, oilseeds acreage climbed 6 percent to nearly 83 million, led by a 9 percent surge in soybeans to a record 64.3 million acres.

HUNGARIAN-BRED GUARD DOGS may be an effective way to protect sheep from coyotes and a $33,000 one-year cooperative agreement between USDA and Colorado State University has been set up to study the possibilities. The Hungarian Komondor is a large, powerful, shaggy-coated white dog with a black nose and dark brown eyes. First developed over 200 years ago to protect livestock from wolves, the Komondor was so successful that it is hoped the breed can repeat its success against the U.S. coyote.

A TOLL-FREE FARMER'S newsline has been set up by USDA. To get the latest in livestock, crop and farm economic news, simply dial 800/424-7964—it's a free call. New reports are issued each weekday after 4 p.m., Washington, D.C., time.

LAMBS ON A PASTURE SYSTEM with birdsfoot trefoil showed a 23 percent higher rate of gain by the end of the grazing season than those on alfalfa-grass, research agronomists in Minnesota have been finding. Legumes have long been known to produce faster weight gain, but there was the risk of bloat. "The answer may be increased use of long unappreciated birdsfoot trefoil which does not cause bloat," scientist Gordon Marten says.

A 20 PERCENT SET-ASIDE program for the 1979 wheat crop was recently announced by Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland. By complying with the announced set-aside, wheat farmers will be eligible for a wheat loan of $2.35/bushel and a target price of $3.40/bushel, also the same as the 1978 program. Bergland called the 1979 program a "stabilizing measure designed to benefit both producers and consumers."

ALTHOUGH JANUARY 1, 1979, cattle numbers may be down about 5 percent from the 1978 beginning inventory, the drastic herd liquidation of recent years probably will end within a few months according to USDA economists. However, judging from previous cattle cycles, extensive herd rebuilding may not begin for a few years. The ending of herd liquidation and, later, the beginning of herd rebuilding will bring marked reductions in cattle slaughter and beef output. That, in turn, almost surely means higher prices of both cattle and beef.

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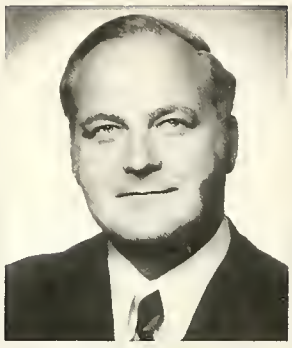
News in Brief

The FFA



CLARKE A. NELSON, group vice president of the Carnation Company and 1978 chairman of the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee, will soon be drawing his successful year in the latter post to a close. Robert D. Lund, general manager of the Chevrolet Division of the General Motors Corporation will succeed Nelson in November. Nelson, his wife and Carnation have given outstanding support of the FFA during the past year. During its 30 consecutive years of FFA involvement, Carnation has sponsored the FFA Alumni Workshop, the Agricultural Processing award and co-sponsored the Milk Quality and Dairy Foods contest. The latest is the sponsorship of the National FFA Band by Carnation, of Los Angeles, California.

THE NATIONAL FFA ALUMNI COUNCIL met at the National Center recently. Action taken included appointment of a new standing committee called the Committee on Government and a new title of executive director for Alumni Administrator Woody Cox. At the meeting, Cox reported significant increases in alumni membership for the current year and announced that the 421 new life members this year has already exceeded the goal of 300 set earlier.

PRESSES ARE ROLLING ON a new set of materials for the popular Food For America program. The major revision in the kit will be a Teacher Resource Book, which will combine the lesson plan and the spirit masters for overhead projection in one book. Spirit masters in the new book produce word games and puzzles that will be of more interest to second, third and fourth grade students. In addition, the resource book will contain eight black and white pictures suitable for use on a bulletin board. Late October is the target date of readiness of those new materials. Chapters can expect to receive a colorful explanatory brochure in the middle of October that gives a step-by-step involvement plan. Food For America is an FFA Foundation special project sponsored by J. I. Case, Mobay Chemical Corporation and American Breeders Service.

TWO FFA FILMS WERE HONORED by "Aggy" awards given by *Agri-Educator,* a magazine for vo-ag instructors. Winner of the grand award for the best vo-ag free-use film was "FFA—Learning and the Land" sponsored by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and produced by Venard Films of Peoria, Illinois. "FFA—Agriculture's New Generation" was one of nine silver award winners. It was also produced by Venard and sponsored by the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

K. ELLIOTT NOWELS HAS been named to the position of Director of Information for the National FFA Organization, where he will be responsible for planning, preparing and carrying out the communications efforts of the National FFA Organization. Nowels, a former FFA member from Ohio, was previously associate editor of *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine and prior to that had served the magazine as regional advertising manager. He holds a degree in agriculture from Ohio State University with a specialization in journalism.

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Eagle Flight Left, Two-Three-Zero.

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AIR FORCE

From the Mailbag

Readers Report

Beaumont, Texas

Thank you for the "Flashback '77" article about the National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA). FFA and rodeo have had a large and beneficial part in the lives of my three sons. We are very fortunate to have an excellent teacher at the school they attended. Mark was in Huron and was lucky enough to win the bareback championship again, so he has not seen the article but I'm sure he would like me to include his thanks for the article and your support of NHSRA.

Ginger Dishman
Secretary, Region V
Texas High School Rodeo Association

Wadena, Minnesota

I think the concept of a Hall of Fame is very worthwhile.

I believe the enclosed describes a person who should be considered for the proposed Hall of Fame mentioned in the editorial in the August-September issue.

Don Baustian
Vo-Ag Instructor

Anna, Illinois

I strongly agree with the idea to start an FFA Hall of Fame.

It gives future FFA members something to look forward to after giving their all to the organization. After all, baseball has a Hall of Fame and they even get paid.

Greg Stark
Reporter

Trenton, New Jersey

There are many individuals, groups, organizations and businesses that have played a major role over the last 50 years in making the FFA what it is today. Appropriate recognition of the type you have outlined in your editorial would be beneficial to the FFA in many ways.

I would recommend that the FFA Hall of Fame be located at the National FFA Center. My further suggestion would be that a National FFA Hall of Fame committee be established to review all existing facilities of this type and develop a plan of action. I will be glad to offer my assistance in any way possible.

Phillip Alampi
Secretary
New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Loda, Illinois

Your "Word With the Editor" in the August-September issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER* is quite appropriate and interesting.

As introduction, I was National FFA President in 1935-36. Being a native Virginian, mine was a fortunate, unique and timely opportunity and experience. In high school Dowell J. Howard (later National FFA Treasurer) was my district supervisor for vo-ag education. As a state officer I became closely affiliated with Henry Groseclose. My home town was the homestead of Dr. Walter S. Newman, who was state supervisor of vocational agriculture at the time.

After serving as president I worked part-time for three years in the national FFA office as assistant to W. A. (Art) Ross who was national executive secretary. In this capacity I became intimately acquainted with the national vo-ag administrative staff. Included among these were J. A. Linke, Dr. C. H. Lane, Dr. W. T. Spanton, Dick Gregory, D. M. Clements, Jimmy Pearson, Bob Maltby.

It is interesting to note that Neville Hunsicker, now national FFA Advisor, was a district vo-ag supervisor in West Virginia when I officially visited that state in 1936.

This may sound like a name dropping venture, and indeed, it is. Every one of the people mentioned herein along with a host of others richly deserves some kind of fitting and lasting recognition for their respective contributions to the founding, development and growth of the FFA.

I would be happy to be of any service I may be able to render in connection with future planning and implementation of this most worthy project.

William P. Shaffer

(Continued on page 38)

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Pivot Post/Lock Bar of Schrade + Steel® makes the Bear Paw completely rust resistant; insures the most rigid, durable construction ever offered in a lockback knife.
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If you lose it, Uncle Henry will replace it free.
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It's called Stinger.

And it's more than a can opener. It opens up a whole new world of high velocity shooting for .22 owners.

With 25% more velocity than any kind of ammo they could shoot before. *25 per cent.*

Pretty fast company to keep. And pretty bad news for whatever's in Stinger's way.

Think about it. The good ol' boys' Stinger zips along 350 feet per second quicker than an ordinary .22LR.

It even sounds quicker. Regular .22's go off with a "crack." But with Stinger, it's more like a "CR-A-ACK!"

And you don't need some fancy gun to shoot it. If your rifle or handgun is chambered for .22LR, it's chambered for Stinger.

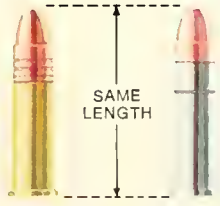
So how'd the boys at Lewiston come up with this one, you ask? It wasn't easy, they grin.

They started off making an extra-long brass case.

Then they filled it up with a special longer-burning powder (a little more than usual). And a newly-designed bullet (a little lighter than usual).

High velocity .22LR meets a full can of pop at 25 yds.

Stinger meets a full can of pop at 25 yds.



MV 1335 ft. per sec.

MV 1685 ft. per sec.

That extra powder gives the bullet extra oomph. But Stinger's every bit as safe in your chamber as regular .22 ammo. It's whatever's on the receiving end that isn't so safe.

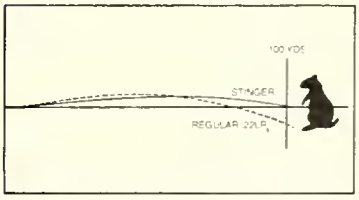
You see, Stinger's bullet is the good ol' boys' Penta-Point type. With five little corners at the tip to help the lead peel back. And, in effect, explode on impact.

So what you hit stays hit. (This can of pop could tell you all about it).

There's even less danger of ricochet with Stinger's bullet. It's more likely to break apart than bounce off a rock.

And all that extra velocity makes Stinger shoot flatter, so it ends up closer to where you aim.

At 100 yards, for instance, it drops 3½" less than a regular .22LR.



Since Stinger is a completely different kind of .22LR, the good ol' boys decided it should look completely different. So they dressed it up pretty in a shiny nickle plated case. And packed it in rattle-proof plastic boxes of 50.

They want you to know you're welcome to go get a box. Right now. Today.

And then go get a can.

Sporting Equipment Division

OMARK INDUSTRIES

Snake River Avenue, Lewiston, Idaho 83501

Working cattle on the Parsons' ranch in South Dakota.

An Example To Follow

By K. Elliott Nowels

INSPIRATION. An example to follow. Someone on top that you can survey from a distance and say, "hmmmm. I think I could do that, too!" That's a good reason for recognizing the best; it gives others something to strive for.

Brad, Glenn and Grant Parsons of Phillip, South Dakota, have an example that is almost always around for advice, encouragement and an occasional more direct type of boost. In 1957, their father, Billie D. Parsons, walked across that stage in Kansas City and accepted the Regional Star Farmer award for the Central Region.

As Brad Parsons continues to eye the American Farmer degree and strives to build up his financial standing and ownership with qualifying in mind, he often thinks about the example his father and others have been able to give him.

"He always kind of pushed us," the 18-year-old said, taking a break from the day's branding of some 300 calves. He seemed to be unsure that "push" was the word he wanted to use. "He encouraged us to keep good records from the start and be responsible for our own animals."

The involvement in this management vein came at an early age. All the sons started out raising "bucket" calves while still in elementary school.

Brad, who recently graduated from high school, got his early start at the age of seven, when he "bought" a calf from his father for a whopping $5 price tag.

"I didn't even know how much they were, but I figured it would be about $5," Brad smiles. "I had gotten the money when I was born, I think." From that humble start, Brad came through, selling, buying and trading, to the point he is now—owning 39 brood cows and 23 yearling heifers. He appreciates his father's encouragement in getting that early start.

"You've got to start pretty young and try to grow pretty fast...or else by the time you want to get married or something you won't be able to afford anything, with the price of land and the price of cattle anymore. I don't think I could make it if it wasn't for an early start."

Brad is quite proud of the fact that he attended the National FFA Convention in 1976 and it was there that another Star's influence was added to his father's.

"I saw Timothy Amdahl win his award and that was a pretty big deal," Brad says. "He had a real good operation; all those registered cattle." Seeing a fellow South Dakotan win the FFA's top award has apparently spurred Brad to continually explore ways to better his position, whether through expansion or improving the type of cattle he has.

"That's what I always think of when I want to increase my herd or expand a little bit. I think about working toward some sort of FFA goal," the young rancher says. He is hesitant to talk about his chances for the American Farmer degree. "I would like to (get the degree), but I don't know if I stand a chance or not."

No small boost toward increased involvement in the operation occurred when Brad's application for loan through the new Farmer's Home Administration (FmHA) youth program was approved, giving him the option of taking a loan up to $45,000. He plans to use the money to build his herd, perhaps buying some yearlings this fall if the price breaks a little.

Grant and Glenn both were also able to get approval for the loan program, that they learned about through Doug Hauk, vo-ag teacher at Phillip. They worked with a loan officer out of Pierre, South Dakota, who visits in the Phillip area every two weeks.

Grant and Glenn are twins at the age of 15, but their broad shoulders and height make them seem more than their years. When you talk to them, you feel sure that they must be older.

"It's real good to keep busy and there's plenty to do around here," said Grant, explaining his appreciation for life on the 12,000-acre ranch. Glenn enlarges on reasons for liking ranch life. "I like the freedom of it," he says simply.

Both seem to appreciate that early start that the elder Parsons had given them and want to make sure you understand that dad has not overstepped his bounds; he always left most of the decision-making up to them concerning their possible inclusion in the family operation.

"He isn't forcing us to stay here," says Glenn. "If we want to go live in Montana or somewhere, it doesn't matter." He drew the state out of the air. "He bought land with the idea that we might want to join him in the operation," Grant said, explaining that the option was there.

Billie D. Parsons relaxed with a huge glass of tea next to the pickup truck. Several hundred head of cattle took turns making noises behind him in the central corral and a small road reached up through the green hills of South Dakota in the distance.

"We do have a big enough operation and enough variance in our operation that all the boys can enter right into the family situation if they would like," he said. Billie said that the variety in the operation—feedlot cattle in the winter, some 400 acres of hay and 1,800 of feed grains—was enough to offer plenty of work 12 months a year. "I won't want this to be a dad and mom gift situation, I want them to achieve this on their own growth," Billie emphasized. "It's got to be on their own financial understanding. As far as going out to get a loan to buy cattle, well, that's strictly on their own."

A free reign has kind of been the rule of thumb as the boys have grown into the operation. "I don't suggest too much to them because I'd like to see what they decide they want to do at certain stages, instead of saying, 'well, when you reach this stage, we'll do this.' "

A number of people have told Billie that they were impressed with the maturity of his sons. "I really believe they are mature in their actions, attitudes and approaches to situations," he says. "It probably just came from responsibility."

And, perhaps, some examples they could follow.

Timothy Amdahl, 1976 Star Farmer of America

The Stuff of Stars

LEADERSHIP, a trait commonly apparent in an FFA Star, continues to be a word useful when describing Timothy Amdahl of Flandreau, South Dakota, and 1976 Star Farmer of America. Brad Parsons' mention of Amdahl made us curious enough to find out what he's been up to. We checked and found that he was still leading the field, this time with the use of embryo transplants in his registered Angus breeding operation.

Amdahl likes the challenges of the brand new practice and was likely the first in his state to try it. In his first attempt he planted embryos in over a dozen head of females and is planning to try it again soon. In that first try, only two of the cows conceived due to lack of fertility in the semen.

Oddly enough, Amdahl became acquainted with an Oklahoma breeder who performs the transplants through a third friend he met at his regular Bible study up the road at Brookings. After letting him know of his interest and visiting back and forth on the phone for about 15 months, the man agreed to come up and show him the process.

"It's a wide open field," he said of possibilities for the operation. "Right now they are working at perfecting a way of freezing them which would really promote trade with other countries. Instead of trying to take cattle from this country to another and have the cattle affected by the climate change, they would be able to ship the embryos and implant them in their own cows."

At first skeptical of embryo transplanting, Amdahl slowly changed his mind when he realized that he might be able to get several more calves out of one particularly outstanding individual he had when a live-birth would probably do the 16-year-old cow in. Now he is quite fascinated by the whole process; the thought that life can spring from the transplanted substance.

Amdahl says he has been moving down in quantity and more toward quality with his herd since he won the Star award in 1976. His herd number stands at about 150 now compared to 230 cows at the time of the award. The cows he culled were almost all of commercial quality.

"Because I was getting into the embryo transplant, I also knew I could get a lot better offspring from fewer cows. I'm reducing numbers because it challenges me to produce tremendous offspring from just a few individuals. I guess that's why I got into embryo transplant, too."

Challenges met with leadership; the stuff of stars.

Triplets to Receive American Farmer Degree

HOW does it feel to have two brothers the exact same age as you are? Jerry, Terry and Perry Fuller, from Marion County, Georgia, say the advantages of being triplets are greater than the disadvantages—they stand up for each other; chores are finished faster; and they have three votes in FFA meetings.

The Fuller triplets, who graduated in 1975 from Tri-County High School, have been nominated to receive their American Farmer degrees. Except for leadership activities their applications are almost identical. The three have a four-way partnership with their father, L. A. Fuller, in the operation of a 376-acre farm. Most of the farm enterprise consists of corn, soybeans, truck crops, beef cattle and swine. In addition, they have 16 beds of bait in the operation.

There are 11 children in the Fuller family and the triplets came along after six girls. Dark haired Jerry and Terry are identical in looks, but Perry has blond hair and looks nothing like his two brothers.

All three of the young men were leaders in their FFA chapter. In their senior year each held a chapter office as well as their sister Vickie. Terry was chapter president, Jerry was treasurer, Perry was parliamentarian and Vickie was secretary. They were also leaders in other school organizations. Jerry served as vice president of their junior class, Terry was president and Perry was secretary. Perry also served as president of the senior class.

All three brothers received pig chain animals and won all first prizes at the pig chain show in Columbus.

"Even though my first place boar brought more prize money than Jerry's and Perry's two gilts, we pooled our money and divided it equally," said Terry.

Perry, Terry and Jerry Fuller

According to Advisor Roscoe Jones, the triplets have a production agriculture program centered around row crops and truck farming. The quality of their management and interest in farming prompted their father to go in partnership with them and expand the operation.

They use the skills they learned in vocational agriculture and Young Farmers class. Their welding and farm mechanic skills have saved them a lot of expense and the courses in farm management help them operate their farming program in a business way.

Jerry and Terry plan to make farming their full-time occupation, but Perry is now enrolled at Young Harris College and wants to return home to open his own agribusiness.

The Fullers rent part of their land and plan to expand as land becomes available to them. *(By Eleanor Gilmer)*

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OPEN HOUSE

"TO HAVE a successful open house, you have to have something for the people to see . . . something they can talk about," Bill Carson summed it up simply. "By having people come and see what we're doing and how we're doing it—it creates interest—the whole purpose is the people-to-people contact."

Bill, a sectional FFA officer and member of the White Mountain Regional High School FFA Chapter in New Hampshire, was talking about an open house they held earlier this year.

Publicity and exposure were the reasons to get the public into the school and see just what it was the students were doing in vocational agriculture and the FFA. Student action and involvement seemed the key to White Mountain's success.

"At least 200 people were through here that Thursday evening," Sally Gaynor, chapter treasurer, said. Sally had varied duties in the effort to impress upon the visitors the numerous values of vo-ag/FFA.

"The FFA parliamentary procedure team gave a demonstration and I put that together," she said. "I made sure everyone was in their respective places and such." She was also in and out of the greenhouse answering questions.

The visitors seemed quite interested in the greenhouse end of the building. The class had brought soil into a boarded area in a corner of a classroom and landscaped it, even to the point of trees and a bubbling brook. At last word, an itinerant rabbit had taken up residence.

"It," the character from the old Addams Family TV series, was created to welcome folks to the greenhouse. "Mr. Goudie (instructor) suggested that we make something out of chicken wire," said Dave Whitney, It's creator. "I decided the easiest thing to make would be a grass blob." Dave hung moist sphagnum moss on the chicken wire blob and "threw grass seed at it." When the grass grew, tennis shoes and glasses were added.

An animal display complete with cow and calf, turkeys, sheep and lambs, ducks and a pig was located in one part of the shop, making a valuable addition for many of the "little people" attending. The occasional "Bahh" or "Moo" added to the ag atmosphere.

The open house served a double purpose when arrangements were made to have the elementary students visit the displays the day following the open house. Food For America programs had been presented to several classes in the grade schools two weeks earlier and the added visit with the animals and FFA members served to refresh in their minds the meaning of agriculture and food production.

But the primary benefits were reaped by opening up to the community.

"For perhaps the first time, not only parents but community taxpayers came in and saw the real image of agriculture and what is being taught about it in this school," said Jon Freeman, who with Dayton Goudie and John Holmes, teach agriculture at White Mountain. "People left with a pleasant positive image and they learned something. They talked about the things they saw and they were really impressed with how the students behaved, because the students acted as instructors for many of the exhibits."

"Cousin It", along with Dave Whitney and Advisor Dayton Goudie welcome the greenhouse guests.

Before Opening The Doors

OPENING the doors to the vo-ag department and chapter meeting room can reveal a lot about an FFA chapter. An open house or reception can pay big dividends though in better public relations with faculty, parents, agribusiness leaders, school board and administration and prospective students.

But it takes more than some magic words to open up the doors and let everyone see on the inside. Just follow a few "do's and don'ts" and reap all of the benefits of your open house.

First of all, clean up, under, around, behind, out and in. Don't forget the plaques on the wall, the textbook shelves and the advisor's desk.

Add some color—fresh paint, flowers out of the greenhouse for the classroom or posters—to the department. And have plenty of light if it's to be at night. Add light if it brightens up the shop or a dark corner of the classroom.

Exhibits can tell your story too. Put meaningful things on display for visitors to see what members are studying. Have the members stand and tell about their work. Be sure to identify what things are with adequate signs and try to put out work of as many members with their names on it as possible. Demonstrations at specific times—say 3 and 5 p.m.—would be a good idea. Scheduled and announced in the pre-open house releases, they might be welding, sheep shearing, flower arranging or an opening

(Continued on Page 39)

Dr. W. T. Spanton was National FFA Advisor in 1953 during FFA's Silver Anniversary year when the following article was written. He accurately predicted that FFA membership would pass the half-million mark (today it is 507,108). Dr. Spanton died May 16, 1975, at the age of 84. It seems worthwhile to review his projections of 25 years ago as FFA prepares for its Golden Anniversary Convention.—Ed.

A Look at the Future

By Dr. W. T. Spanton

NOT many of us who were on hand in 1928 when the national organization of Future Farmers of America was formed would have dared to predict the brilliant future that was in store for the organization, or the great advances that would be made by 1953.

During this anniversary year we can look back with justifiable pride for the past achievements, but, just for fun, let's take a look at what the next 25 years may have in prospect.

One thing is certain: FFA and vocational agriculture must forge ahead. There is no resting place. Yesterday's goal, accomplished, must be today's starting point. Any organization that seeks to rest on the laurels of its past accomplishments soon finds itself in the position of the farmer who does a fine job of spring plowing and planting, then puts up his tools. The weeds soon take over the corn.

The program of vocational education in agriculture was born of a need to provide practical training in farming to boys who would be the farmers of the future. Success of vocational agriculture in the last 35 years has come about through the fulfillment of that need.

Is it not logical, then, to look at the needs of the future in setting our course for the things that must be accomplished during the next 25 years?

The need for training farm boys in agriculture is still here. It is a more pressing need today than it was in 1917 when the Smith-Hughes Act was passed. All of the great advances in farming practices that have been put into use in recent years demand more skill and managerial ability in the farmer. New practices are being developed and put into use so fast that today's most modern farmer, unless he changes with the times, will be hopelessly out of date in ten years.

We hear a lot these days about the "Fifth Plate," and the fact that a steadily decreasing number of farmers must gear their production to meet the needs of a steadily increasing population. We are told that the farmers will meet the new production demands by increased use of fertilizers, more efficient crops and livestock, greater mechanization, use of supplemental irrigation, and so on.

Too little has been said about the educational needs of those farmers. We know that it takes about 130,000 new farmers every year just to replace those who retire, or otherwise leave the farm.

Dr. W. T. Spanton
National Advisor 1941-61

From the size of the task that is laid out for them, we know that they will need to be highly trained farmers, intelligent, with a sound background of practical experience. Moreover, they will need to have begun their preparation for farming at an early age, including the building of farming programs that lead toward successful establishment.

The program of vocational education in agriculture is the only program that has ever been developed to offer practical, systematic agricultural instruction to farm boys on a mass basis, and at the same time offer opportunities and encouragement for the boys to build toward establishment in farming.

Should we not, then, expect that in the normal course of American development the vocational agriculture program will continue to expand until it supplies the need for new farmers?

I believe that within the next 25 years departments of vocational agriculture will be established in 15,000 rural communities, and that the annual enrollment of all-day students in those schools may exceed 600,000.

Since vocational agriculture and the Future Farmers of America organization are so interrelated, I believe that membership in the FFA will continue to increase until it passes the half-million mark.

FFA has been in its formative years, even to this date. The future will see better use of the FFA in helping farm boys develop their talents in leadership, awakening their senses of civic responsibility, and stimulating them to work and study harder toward success in their chosen occupation of farming.

Along with a more effective program will come greater recognition. The FFA has enjoyed ever-increasing recognition from the press, radio, and television during recent years. Business and industrial firms, from the local grocery stores to giant corporations, have begun to take interest in the work that FFA is doing and to lend their support to the program.

Much more cooperation of this type may be expected in the future. Leaders in all fields of endeavor, many of whom come from the ranks of the FFA, will show more and more interest in Future Farmers as the organization continues its good work.

There will be problems to face, of course. The fact that I am confident of the future does not in any way allay my belief that all of us must continue to work to bring about that success.

We have the program; we have the leadership and are developing more, and there is need for the things that vocational agriculture and FFA can offer.

I am not enough of a fatalist to believe that the future is written. We who are the leaders and members of the FFA today, and those who will come after us, must write it.

The greatest inspiration that has come to me in my many years of work with the FFA has been my association with the organization's young leaders. Each year as we get to know a group of National FFA Officers we marvel at their competence and wonder where we'll ever find more like them. Next year, an equal or better crop comes along.

The young men developing today in the vocational agriculture and FFA program are the farmers, the vocational agriculture teachers, and the farm organization leaders of tomorrow.

They are the basis for my faith in the future, not only of FFA, but of all America.

(From the article, "1953—Future Farmers of America—1978," which appeared in the September, 1953, issue of Better Farming Methods *magazine and in* FFA at 25.)

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The Golden Anniversary Convention

WE kicked our celebration off with last year's 50th Convention. It's been going on all year with state and chapter celebrations. Now it's time for the biggy. The finale. The Golden Anniversary FFA Convention, November 7-10, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Some new attractions this year will add to the excitement. One such change is the expansion of the Agricultural Career Show. This year's show has been moved to the H. Roe Bartle Exhibition Hall to accommodate a program that for the first time allows exhibits by National Foundation sponsors as well as many advertisers that appear within the pages of *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. The show will continue to feature exhibits by agricultural-related trade organizations, professional societies and government agencies. Thus far, 88 organizations have confirmed their space reservations for the show and an equal number have indicated high interest.

Another activity likely to be a highlight of the 51st National FFA Convention will be the unveiling of a Commemorative Marker designating the site and date of the founding of the FFA. Streets will be blocked off for the 30-minute ceremony to be held on the corner of 11th and Baltimore Streets in Kansas City, the site where the old Baltimore Hotel once stood. It was in the hotel on November 20, 1928, that the first and founding convention of 33 delegates of 18 states started the Future Farmers of America.

Those successful Leadership Workshops sponsored by the FFA Alumni will be available once more and a session has been added to accommodate yet more members. Group and personal dynamics, public speaking and career orientation are topics that will be explored during the five different workshops. Last year over 1,200 members packed each of the workshop sessions.

Action on the main convention floor will continue at the brisk, exciting pace that has made the convention famous. The final judging of the Public Speaking contest on Wednesday night is likely to pack the Municipal Auditorium and the excitement won't decrease. Conferring of American Farmer degrees, the FFA Talent Show and the naming of the two "Stars Over America" on Thursday night will keep the pace brisk and pave the way for the excitement of the election of six new National FFA Officers on Friday.

Well-known speakers spaced through the program will come from a diversity of fields and interests. Paul Harvey, a prominent news commentator; Kyle Rote, Jr., a star young athlete; Commissioner of Education Ernest Boyer and down-home comedian Jerry Clower are all confirmed for appearances.

Other optional activities that are associated with Kansas City's annual roll-out of the red carpet to the FFA will probably be big hits, too. Preceding the week on Sunday, November 5, the Kansas City Chiefs Football Club plays host to the Oakland Raiders. They've invited FFA members, advisors, families and friends to attend the game at the reduced rate of $6 per ticket and sit in an FFA reserved section. Advance orders are required for the special rate.

The American Royal is to be the attraction on Friday afternoon as they have FFA Day with a rodeo and special entertainment. The American Royal Parade, led by the National FFA Band and the newly elected National FFA Officers will follow on Saturday morning.

1978 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, November 7

8:00 a.m. Registration
1:00 p.m. Opening of Agricultural Career Show, H. Roe Bartle Exhibition Hall, 301 W. 13th Street
2:00 p.m. Business Session
7:30 p.m. Vespers Program—National Officers and Chorus

Wednesday, November 8

8:00 a.m. Registration
Meats Contest
Farm Business Management Contest
8:30 a.m. Milk Quality and Dairy Foods Contest
9:00 a.m. Horticulture Contest
FFA Alumni Association Meeting (First Session)
Opening Session, FFA Convention
10:00 a.m. Dairy Cattle Contest
12:30 p.m. Agricultural Mechanics Contest
1:30 p.m. Unveiling FFA Commemorative Marker
2:00 p.m. National Chapter Safety Awards
Business Session
7:30 p.m. National Public Speaking Contest
9:30 p.m. VIP Citations
Distinguished Service Citations (to organizations)

Thursday, November 9

7:00 a.m. Livestock Contest
9:00 a.m. Poultry Contest
FFA Alumni Association Meeting
National Agricultural Proficiency Awards
National Chapter Awards
National BOAC Awards
2:00 p.m. Conferring Honorary American Farmer Degrees
3:15 p.m. Conferring American Farmer Degrees
5:00 p.m. Dinner for Foundation Sponsors and Guests
6:45 p.m. FFA Talent Show
7:45 p.m. Recognize Foundation Sponsors
1978 "Stars Over America" Pageant

Friday, November 10

9:00 a.m. Study Committee Meeting for National Contests
9:15 a.m. Announcement of National Contest Winners
FFA International Activities
Election of 1978-79 National Officers
1:00 p.m. FFA Day at the American Royal
7:00 p.m. Installation of 1978-79 National Officers
Special Entertainment—Firestone Show

Saturday, November 11

8:30 a.m. American Royal Parade—Led by National FFA Band

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Robert Clowney, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Marlin Trissel, Mooreland, Oklahoma

Star Farmers For 1978

Maynard Augst, Montgomery, Minnesota

Troy Wilson, Mount Hermon, Louisiana

FROM the 807 applications nominated to receive the American Farmer Degree for 1978 emerged eight top candidates. They were selected by the National FFA Board of Directors and National Officers as the four regional Star Farmers and four regional Star Agribusinessmen.

In November these eight will travel to Kansas City, Missouri, to be further interviewed by a selection committee. Then the FFA will name one of them Star Farmer of America and one of them Star Agribusinessman of America during the National Convention.

Here are their stories on pages 21 and 22.

Troy Wilson, Southern Region

A herd of prize winning registered Ayrshires is helping 20-year-old Troy Wilson of Mount Hermon, Louisiana, get established in the dairy business.

On enrollment in the vo-ag program taught by Hugh Fortenberry, Sr., Troy had one cow. Over the years he has gradually expanded his herd to 71 head at the present time. Troy has managed to steadily increase production from 12,600 pounds of milk in 1973 to a herd average of 15,600 pounds of milk in 1977.

Troy operates his dairy in partnership with his father. When his father injured his back shortly after Troy enrolled in college, Troy returned home to manage the herd.

He owns a full line of haying equipment which was purchased with a Production Credit Association loan and he is able to produce sufficient feed for the operation.

Troy served as chapter secretary and student advisor and earned the Dairy Production Proficiency award in his chapter. In 1976, he was named Star Farmer of Louisiana.

Now married, Troy and his wife Brenda have a three-year-old son Troy, Jr.

Maynard Augst, Central Region

Maynard Augst, 21, of Montgomery, Minnesota, is fulfilling a life-long desire to own and operate his own farm.

"I convinced my parents I would have more incentive if I owned some animals rather than work for a wage," recalls Augst. "My vocational agriculture instructor, Mr. John Gintner, was a big help too," he said. "He encouraged me to take over the record keeping of the entire farm."

Beginning with the purchase of 29 beef feeders Maynard quickly expanded his herd to 152 Holstein steers in 1974. In 1976 he was able to purchase most of his father's machinery and 80 acres of land as his father had decided to retire. He rented additional land and also purchased the service of a marketing advisory service.

The same year he set up an office at home and continued his education at the University of Minnesota Technical College near his home.

Maynard found time to serve as sentinel and vice president of the FFA chapter and as president of his district. Last year he was a state vice president. He has earned proficiency awards in beef and crop production.

Marlin Trissel, Western Region

Marlin Trissel of Mooreland, Oklahoma, believes in a diversified farming operation. Through his participation in the vo-ag program under instructor Bill Grubbs, Marlin is working to be the third generation of the Trissel family to take up farming. The enterprises include 144 sheep, 228 head of hogs, 450 head of beef cattle and nearly 500 acres of crops.

Although now well established the 21-year-old can recall a modest beginning. At first it was sheep—seven ewes and a ram. Today he has a flock of over 100 sheep.

In 1974 Marlin borrowed money to purchase 25 bred heifers. He has taken an artificial insemination course and plans to improve his herd. Hogs are also part of his farming program but because he believes prices have peaked, Marlin has reduced his sow herd size.

The crop farming began with 240 acres of wheatland. Recently he has expanded to 445 acres of wheat and oats and 40 acres of irrigated alfalfa. In addition to the cropland, he rents 2,062 acres of grassland pasture.

Now married, Trissel, his wife Michelle and their daughter Courtney, live on eight acres of land they purchased.

Robert Clowney, Eastern Region

A picturesque dairy farm near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, is the home of 21-year-old Robert Clowney.

Starting with 2 heifers, a cow and 8 acres of corn, Robert expanded his own herd to 15 cows, 25 acres of corn and 10 acres of hay. After graduation Robert and his father decided on a 50 percent partnership in all parts of the operation except the land. Robert would have the major responsibility for herd management and milking, too.

He has achieved a 14,500 pound herd average in his 93-cow herd. Corn yields have been averaging 100 bushels per acre and he has harvested 5 tons of alfalfa per acre.

According to instructor Ronald Sollenberger, Robert has been Greenhand chaplain, reporter and secretary.

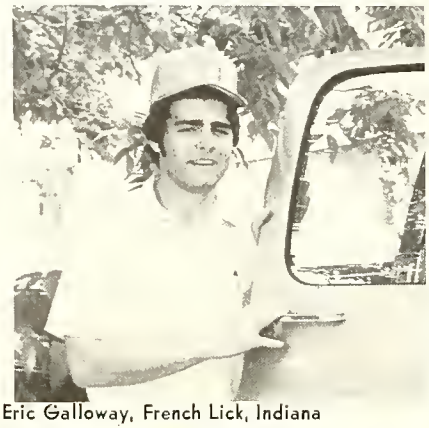
Robert and his wife Charlotte live with their infant daughter in a mobile home near the 274-acre home farm.

(Continued on Page 22)

Drew Christensen, (left), Thomas, Oklahoma

Mark Williams (left), Orlando, Florida

Binnie Nash, Gladys, Virginia



Eric Galloway, French Lick, Indiana

Star Agribusinessmen For 1978

Mark Williams, Southern Region

As one member of a family of 10, Mark Williams of Orlando, Florida, learned about responsibility at an early age. Now, at age 20, he owns and operates Mark's Landscape and Maintenance business.

After the first year in vo-ag Mark sold his hogs and devoted full time learning more about plants and designing landscape plans with a local landscape maintenance firm.

As the result of referrals from work in off hours, Mark's business began to grow. At present Mark is hiring 16 to 20 people during peak times of the year.

Today his business is about 60 percent landscaping including residential, commercial and industrial properties and 40 percent landscape maintenance in which the firm maintains both residential and commercial sites.

In the FFA Mark served as chapter treasurer, was on a national horticulture judging team and in 1976 was the Southern Region winner of the National FFA Ornamental Horticulture Proficiency award. He is now serving as vice chairman of the local FFA Alumni Affiliate. His advisor is Mr. B. H. Sasser.

Eric Galloway, Central Region

At 19 years of age Eric Galloway of French Lick, Indiana, is already making an impact on his family's feed and farm supply business.

The feed and farm supply business includes the sale of feed, seed, fertilizer and farm supplies such as fencing, livestock equipment and hardware. The mill also buys and sells grain.

In return for his labor Eric has earned a 3 percent stock option each year so that he now owns 12 percent of the corporation. "I have full management responsibilities of the mill which includes ordering, sales, bookkeeping, deliveries, inventory, buying and resale, advertising and public relations," says Eric.

In 1978 Eric received an Indiana real estate license and formed his own real estate corporation. His auctioneering business had its start in 1976 when he earned his state auctioneering license and started the "Brooks Galloway Auctioneering Service."

He is a graduate of Springs Valley High School where his vocational agriculture instructor was Robert Guillaume. In the FFA Eric was chapter reporter, chapter president and district vice president.

Drew Christensen, Western Region

Farming and agribusiness are challenging careers for 21-year-old Drew Christensen and his wife, Rameen, from Thomas, Oklahoma.

Although his early interests were in livestock production, Drew expanded into agribusiness in his junior year when his father started an implement business in order to have a source of machinery for the family's farming operation.

"Starting from behind a broom, Drew has learned the value of hard labor in building a successful business," says James Jenkins, Drew's advisor.

Since graduation from high school, Drew has assumed the position of parts manager in the implement business. "Operating my own combine and doing some custom combining has increased my knowledge and enables me to talk with the customer with more expertise," he says.

He is a sixth semester student at Oklahoma State University where he is on the Dean's Honor Roll.

In the FFA Drew was reporter and vice president. He was winner of the state Soil and Water Management and the Sales and Service Proficiency awards.

Binnie Nash, Eastern Region

Working in the forest provides more than an income for 21-year-old Binnie Nash of Gladys, Virginia. It's a way of life.

Binnie, who has already earned the National FFA Proficiency award in Forest Management, traces his roots in the forest business back to the days of working with his father and grandfather in the family's sawmill and lumber yard business. "Even before I enrolled in the vocational agriculture program taught by instructor James Puckett, I worked in my father's operation and began learning the business and skills of operating heavy logging machinery."

Binnie has invested over $140,000 in timber harvesting machinery. With a crew of three men and himself, the B. B. Nash, Jr. Logging operation produces about 300 cords of pulpwood and 125,000 board feet of sawlogs per month.

He is constantly seeking new ideas and works closely with the Virginia Division of Forestry. He also believes in the importance of replanting forest and to date has planted well over 14,000 tree seedlings.

In the William Campbell FFA Chapter, Binnie served as president and treasurer and was chairman of the Building Our American Communities committee the year that the chapter earned national recognition.

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NAVY. IT'S NOT JUST A JOB, IT'S AN ADVENTURE.

Raising hogs in confinement was new to this part of Florida but Donald Graham is making it work. Above, Donald in his modern farrowing house. Below, with Advisor Brown in the finishing barn.

INTO PIGS, WHOLE HOG

By K. Elliott Nowels

A COUPLE of years ago Donald Graham of Lake Butler, Florida, decided to go into pork production whole hog, so he set up a farrow-to-finish operation with his father's help.

Now, under his management, 160 sows annually bear pigs at one end of his complex and about 3,000 market-weight hogs are loaded onto trucks at the other.

Conception percentages, disease control, labor effectiveness—all of these are things Donald felt he could improve upon by going to a total confinement and the rubber stamp of time has okayed his decision.

"There's no tellin' how many people told me it'll never work," the tall redhead says, with barely a hint of smugness. It seems that in the northern part of Florida, folks just weren't sure of the new system.

"Many of the hog producers in this area are not accustomed to raising them in confinement," explains James Brown, advisor of the Lake Butler Senior FFA Chapter. "They've got their hogs on pasture, in a pen or in the woods. This is really something new to them."

It seems though that at least some people might

be changing their tunes. "A lot of people have come by to ask me about going into it (total confinement)," says Donald. "I tell them to think about it long and hard because of the work involved. The hogs have got to be looked after seven days every week—there's a lot of work on Saturdays and Sundays, plus you ought to stay with your sows one week out of every month."

A somewhat battered bunk bed, an air-conditioner, a TV, a desk for record keeping and numerous FFA awards on the walls. These are the things that occupy Donald's "home" on and off for 12 weeks out of the year—his office at one end of the farrowing barn. If there are four or five sows farrowing at one time, Willard, his father, helps keep watch and they work on it in shifts.

The father-son team works on a 50-50 basis, with the younger Graham trading the resources he's able to give more of—his labor and management—for the additional capital investment his father was able to provide. They pay one full-time employee out of a joint account.

Donald started with feeder pigs back in 1974 and realized a good profit which he invested in several brood sows and yet more feeders. He bought some farrowing crates and heat lamps to up his efficiency.

"Daddy saw that I liked it and he said if I kept on doing as good a job as I was doing, he'd help me get into it further," Donald said. After considering it quite a while from all angles, they started building the confinement complex in August of 1976. They built the 30-sow farrowing house,' 270-pig nursery and 865-hog finishing barn all at once and completed it in about six months.

"He really jumped in with both feet," says Brown, who touts Graham's outstanding judgement and maturity as reasons for his success.

Graham shrugs off the compliments as well as the 65-70 hours of labor he spends per week working with the pigs.

"I knew when I started it was going to be hard," he says. "We (father and son) sat down and talked about it. He wanted to make sure if we were investing this much that it was what I wanted to do. Well, I don't know anything I'd rather be doing."

Donald says the hardest part is not in the long hours, it's deciding what to do when—the management end of the operation.

Management—the importance of it—is something that Donald doesn't shrug off. He has some definite ideas about the way some things must be done; perhaps on the border of being a stickler.

Disease control and prevention is one area that he doesn't compromise. An iodine bath sits outside the central door to the complex and a quick dip of the feet is mandatory for all people entering, lessening the chance that disease might be carried from another farm.

"It seems like each farm has some bug or another and if someone contacted it they could bring it onto our farm," he says. "I haven't had any problems and that's because of being extra careful."

Due to his hog health program, Donald's herd has been certified, one of the few in his area that can claim that plus. Brucellosis, pseudorabies, liptosperosis—his herd has been found upon inspection to be free of these "profit robbers" as he calls them.

Breeding is another area in which the young producer has instituted some good practices. He has increased his conception rate by rotating his boars so that each sow is bred by two boars. Mist foggers were installed in the boar pens to keep them cooler, hopefully increasing their fertility and litter size in the herd. Pregnancy testing sows one month after breeding reduces the guesswork.

"I knew when I started it was going to be hard."

All this has helped build a 95 percent conception rate with a pigs per litter average of 12 in 1977. Last year's pigs weaned per litter averaged out at almost 10.

Donald has a firm belief in the importance of a good boar in this kind of operation.

"Your boar is more than one-half of your pig crop," he says firmly. "You need a good sow, but the boar is where much of the growth potential comes from." Yorkshire and Duroc are the breeds Donald likes his boars to be, along with a Hampshire now and then. He's willing to pay top money for top boars, setting a ceiling on expenditure for them at around $1,200. "You can't afford to pay much more than that for a commercial herd," he says, unlike purebred operations that often deal in the $9,000 to $14,000 range.

The tall redhead, though admitting he simply enjoys it, also partially attributes his interest in flying—he has his private pilot's license—to improvement of his hog operation.

"The main purpose in learning to fly was to go to boar sales. I've not been able to find the boars that I'd like to have near home here," he says. I go up to Georgia and the Carolinas to find them. If you buy a good one, say ($1,000 or so), they'll deliver it."

The pilot's license and a rented plane also came in handy recently when a motor for his labor-efficient feeding system broke down. He used the plane as quick transportation (the Piper Cherokee cruises at 150 mph) to the town of Douglas, 95 miles away where they had the part waiting. "If I hadn't been able to get the part, I suppose I would've had to feed 1,500 hogs with a bucket," he smiles.

Donald doesn't kid himself. He realizes there'll be those rough times, raising hogs is a business that has its ups and downs. Going into a confinement operation is making a commitment to stick out many of the downs.

"The key to that is management so that when you're just breaking even or losing, you can still ride it out until the good times come again," he says.

Outside the air-conditioning, the weather was yet warmer than we had left it. Guy Mosteller, a hog farmer from Ocala, Florida, was browsing through the farrowing end of the barn with Donald's permission.

"Yeh, I just got about 20 sows right now, but I'd like to work with a lot more," he said. "I just thought I'd stop up here and check this operation out. Maybe it'll save making some of the same mistakes others have made." It was no small jaunt—Ocala lies 60 miles south of Lake Butler.

Donald's aluminum slatted floors then became the topic of discussion with the 18-year-old advising the middle-aged farmer that his opinion was that something else might do a better job. It provided an interesting view of Donald's involvement in his operation and how his knowledge and hard work spawns respect of even those much older than himself. Mosteller was likely to leave there knowing more than he even cared to about confinement.

Many attempts are made to provide a moral for outstanding success stories, particularly ones involving young individuals. With Donald, the moral-seeking effort can be slight for he fills the bill for you, quite innocently and modestly, with something his father told him.

"He told me that you just keep on trying your best, then on down the road you won't ever look back and say, 'well, maybe if I would've worked harder I could have done better.'"

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Carol Foreman, assistant secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture makes a point during the interview with Associate Editor K. Elliott Nowels.

Farmers, Consumers and Their Problems

An interview with Carol Foreman

TOUCHING on the issues of dietary goals, consumer-farmer interaction, government regulation and others in the course of a 45-minute interview with *The National FUTURE FARMER*, Carol Foreman advocated increased communication between the farm and the general public as the answer for many problems that occur between the two groups.

When asked if the farmer, by being such a small percentage of the population, was in danger of being forgotten as legislation was pushed and pulled through the marble halls of Capitol Hill, Foreman suggested that "as long as there is that definite tendency to consider the farmer as a group apart from and as hostile to, the rest of the American people, he's likely to get run over a lot."

"Earl Butz spent a lot of time saying 'I'm going to protect the farmer, to hell with everybody else' and that made a lot of farmers feel real good—'We've got somebody up there that's really fighting for us.' You don't win that way if you've only got 3 percent of the people."

Foreman emphasized striving for improvement of communication between consumer and farmer and the development of programs that can appeal to large numbers of people as good policies to aid in reaching a compromise between producer and consumer.

"I think the farm bill of 1977 is a perfect example of that. We could say to urban America—we're going to stabilize prices. We're going to get away from this upsy and downsy kind of prices. We can say to the farmer—you may have to give up the highest possible price, but we think we can save you from having something like early 1977 again, too. And it seems to be working."

On the communication theme, the Assistant Secretary points out that there are now whole generations of people that were born in the city or its suburban ring, raised there and now vote there. She says these people may have a limited interest in the basic well-being of the American farmer.

"I think it's important that we tell the story of the American farmer to all those people. When I first joined the consumer movement there was total hostility between farmers and consumers. When the 1975 Emergency Farm Act was being considered to raise support prices, urban members of Congress and members of consumer groups were generally opposed to it. I took a pretty bad drubbing from some of my colleagues for supporting that bill, and in fact, went door-to-door in Congress, urging its passage, knowing that it would probably drive food prices up somewhat...but I think most consumers now understand that very few people are farming for the fun of it. They are farming to earn a living and if you can't earn a living, you won't farm. And that situation would be basically detrimental to the consumer."

Foreman says that consumers have likely changed their tune. Where at one time they might have said they wanted food "at the lowest price," they might now be saying, "at the lowest possible price"—assuming certain things—a decent return for the farmer, for instance.

Skepticism of the public regarding the safety of the American food supply has been an issue affecting farmers re-

(Continued on Page 36)

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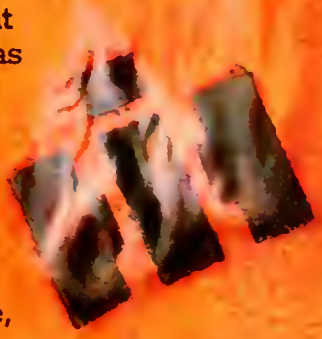

Performance—more lifting power.

To get more work done, you're probably using bigger implements, which require a tractor with greater lifting capacity. An independent report shows that the IH 1086, with standard equipment, provides 6600 lbs. of lift at 24" behind lift points. That's more hitch lifting capacity than many leading competitors. Special hitch lift assist packages are *not* needed with the 1086.

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Photos by Author

At feeding time the fish get a dry feed that is fed to them manually using a scoop.

A New Kind of Fish Farming

Can we supplement the amount of fish from the world's oceans by raising them in captivity?

By Gary Bye

JON Bischoff and Ken Massee are doing what few FFA members have the chance to do. The FFA members from Peninsula High School in Gig Harbor, Washington, are employed by the nation's largest saltwater fish farm as part of their supervised occupational experience program.

Domsea Farms, the company they work for, has pioneered salmon farming in the Northwest. Coho (silver) and Chinook (king) salmon are reared entirely in captivity from egg to harvest. They are hatched at a fresh-water hatchery and pampered through early stages in heated fresh-water pools. Then they are transferred to saltwater pens located in carefully selected areas.

Both students work after school and on weekends feeding the fish. "We do a lot of common labor, but it gives us a good chance to learn about fish farming," says Jon Bischoff, whose father is the FFA advisor at Peninsula High.

"We produce about one million pounds of fish each year," says Jon M. Lindbergh, vice president of the operation. Most are Coho salmon. The fish are shipped frozen to a number of the larger U.S. cities where they are marketed as plate-size salmon. They are also sometimes called mini-salmon or baby salmon.

According to Lindbergh, the first commercial harvest of pen-reared salmon was made during the January through May period of 1972. About 700,000 Coho salmon eggs were taken from ripe Coho returning to spawn (lay eggs) at the Skykomish State Hatchery located 40 miles northeast of Seattle. About 460,000 Chinook fry (fingerling salmon) were later added to this project. Of the total, nearly 300,000 fish successfully survived the commercial rearing process. This compares to approximately one-tenth of 1 percent which mature in the regular chain of migration.

Following the first year's success, the project was expanded to four times the size of the first year's. This year approximately 1½ million fish will be raised to market size.

Under commercial production, the salmon can weigh up to one pound within 14 months after hatching. This compares to a normal weight of one-half ounce after the same elapsed time in the wild. Coho salmon typically mature in three years. When weighing between five and ten pounds, they return from the sea to their home streams to spawn.

After incubation at a freshwater hatchery, the young fry are transferred to freshwater rearing ponds. In an effort to reduce costs, the commercial salmon farmers sometimes rear the juvenile fish in warmer freshwater to increase or accelerate their initial growth. This fast growth has also reduced the necessary maintenance and labor.

Within five to six months, the salmon can be moved from the freshwater ponds to the saltwater holding pens. Vacuum pumps, similar to those used for handling fresh tomatoes, are often used to remove the fish for transport to sea.

Domsea, according to Jon and Ken, has two saltwater rearing facilities at which the fish are grown. Floating net pens are 10 to 12 feet deep and approximately 20 feet wide by 40 feet long. At one of the Domsea sites, near Manchester, Washington, there are 128 pens available for holding the growing fish. Up to 40,000 fish can be held in each of the pens.

Lindbergh says the free flowing tidal water currents bring dissolved oxygen into the pens and flush out wastes. Furthermore, the low cost net pens are resilient and yield with the currents. Since the net pens are only moored, their installation and use causes little permanent change in the environment.

(Continued on Page 57)

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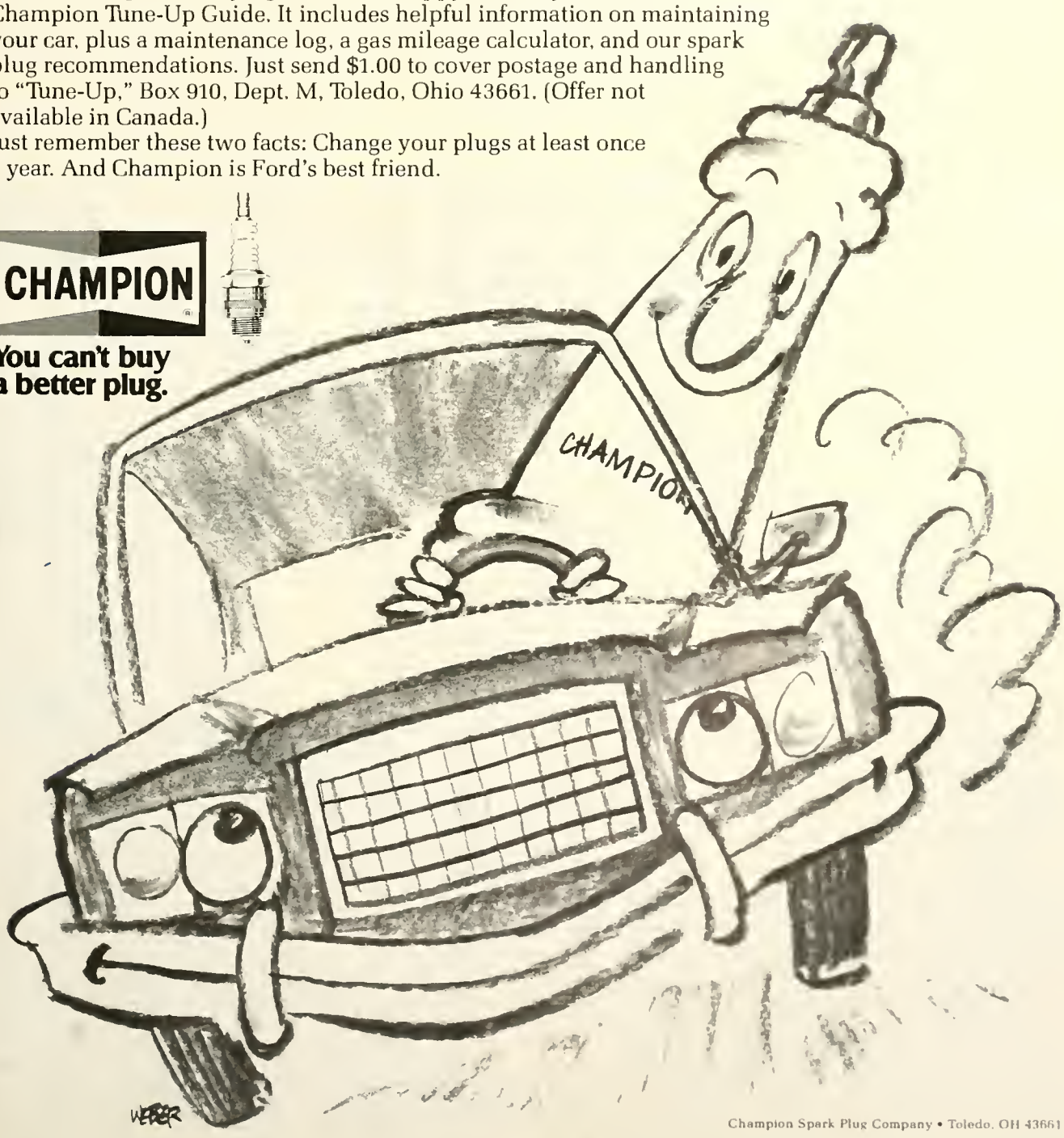

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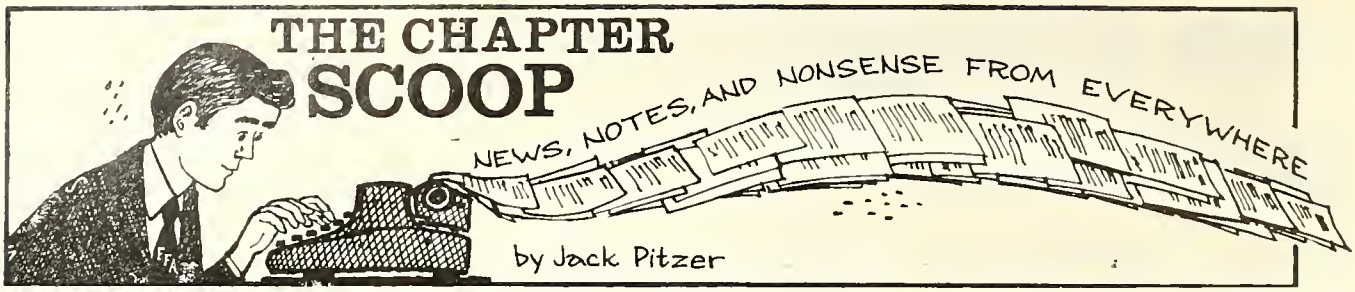


"Building Tomorrow By Growing Today" won first place county fair exhibit for *McGuffey,* PA, FFA.

N-N-N

FFA Alumnus Norm Hutson used his big equipment to clear two acres for *Olympia,* WA, Chapter lab. It'll have Douglas fir and Scotch pine trees.

N-N-N

Freshman FHA sweetheart picked by FFA for *Dongola,* IL, dance was Stacey Hinkle. Freshman FFA beau picked by FHA was **Scott McCommons.**

N-N-N

According to **Tina Gilmore** of *Churchill County* Chapter, the Nevada state leadership camp is great.

N-N-N

Reporter **Tammy Smith** sent in eight news items trying to promote the *Oakland,* OR, Chapter.

N-N-N

Thirteen state farmers in one year for *Chandler,* AZ, set a record for their association.

N-N-N

Members exchanged during the summer again for the third year between *Chokio-Alberta,* MN, and *Hobson,* MT.

N-N-N

Parents were invited to *Ringling,* OK, summer meeting (swim party at local pool and watermelon feast in park).

N-N-N

D. C. Everest Chapter in Schofield, WI, has had Intercity State Bank as their Official FFA Calendar sponsor for 26 consecutive years.

N-N-N

Everyone including Advisor Sprague had a wet and fun time on a *Bellevue,* OH, river canoe trip.

N-N-N

Apple Valley, CA, holds a sheep-shearing/plant and animal sale.

N-N-N

Rebecca Cassity of *Clear Lake,* SD, suggests girls can put extra proficiency award medals on a charm bracelet.

N-N-N

The $6,000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo scholarship goes to **Steve Russell,** president of *Mt. Pleasant, TX.*

N-N-N

Alumni members joined families of *Alex,* OK, members on FFA campout.

California State President **Phil Benson** won the disco contest at the Arizona State Convention.

N-N-N

Wishes of "all the luck and happiness he can handle" in retirement from members of *Gilbert,* AZ, FFA for Advisor Kinney.

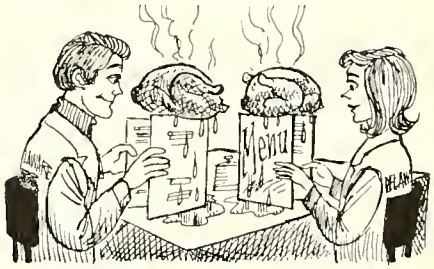
N-N-N

And welcome aboard to Miss Beard, new advisor for *Fort Bend,* TX, FFA.

N-N-N

After 100-mph winds blew down their greenhouse, *Carson Valley,* NV, members are rebuilding it.

N-N-N



Election of new officers was held with a chicken barbeque on top of the menu for *Lake Forest,* DE.

N-N-N

Just some of the many chapters who display farm animals or equipment for elementary or urban kids were *New Berlin,* NY, and *Nebraska City,* NE.

N-N-N

They had so much fun on the first summer camping trip that *Manchester,* NH, members took off a second time.

N-N-N

The parliamentary team of *Cibola,* Albuquerque, NM, took state with **Clyde Heathe, Candie Gardner, Lisa Sieglitz, Danny Gross, Gwen Upson, Terry Cole** and **Denise Richins.**

N-N-N

Just about every chapter must have had someone bake a special 50th Anniversary cake for the FFA celebration. They had a six-tiered version at *Leigh,* NE, to serve 240 at banquet. *Chester,* SD, served a 2-foot by 3-foot one at parent-member banquet.

N-N-N

The fishing contest was the highlight of *Cushing,* TX, campout weekend. Also spent time on water safety.

N-N-N

Entertainment for *Downey,* CA, Chapter was livestock judging team giving reasons on a class of "bull calves."

N-N-N

This summer *Ducanville,* TX, FFA acquired a 20-year-old cattle scale. They got it for the price of moving it themselves from a housing development.

New chapter officers for *Stonewall Jackson,* VA, Chapter were installed at annual summer family picnic.

N-N-N

Scott Redman, an area vice president from *Columbia,* MO, attended National FFA Washington Leadership Conference in a memorial program in honor of a deceased area advisor Leo Smith.

N-N-N

At *Murtaugh,* ID, annual swim party and cookout, members put down an average of six burgers apiece.

N-N-N

Montrose, CO, Chapter is proud that their man, **Mike Nauyokas,** was elected state association president.

N-N-N

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Graybill of *Francis Scott Key,* MD, will receive their American Farmer degree at the National Convention. They're probably the first husband-wife team to earn the degree nationally.

N-N-N

Title of newsletter put out by **Joanne Skilling** for *Wallowa,* OR, is "Features, Facts and Articles."

N-N-N

Tom Muller, *Windom,* MN, won a $100 scholarship from state's rural youth institute for his interest in the "problems and promises" of rural America.

N-N-N

Burns, WY, presented Mr. Clayton Miller as Outstanding Alumni member award at chapter banquet.

N-N-N

A fitting and showing school was organized by *Eureka,* CA, FFA for students showing at upcoming fairs.

N-N-N

Blackhawk, PA, Chapter has its own square dancing team and it won blue at state farm show.

N-N-N

Unusual activity of *Carson,* CA, Chapter was a self defense class taught by President **John Sung Ho Lee** in martial arts like Karate, Judo and Kung Fu.

N-N-N

Every chapter should try for at least one mention in "Scoop" during the year. Beat the rush and get your name in the news next issue.

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THE ARMY RESERVE. PART OF WHAT YOU EARN IS PRIDE.

Foreman

(Continued from Page 26)

cently, but Foreman seemed to think consumers' anger about safety as well as "getting their money's worth" was not necessarily directed at the farmer himself.

"Very rarely is the consumer expressing skepticism toward what the farmer does to food," she said. "The chief concern I think is the degradation of the food supply after it leaves the farmer."

Foreman says there will continue to be more scientific data available about the American diet and that USDA is increasing its commitment to research in nutrition.

"Certainly since World War II the fat level has tended to increase...our consumption of processed sugar has tended to increase, and we don't know what the effect of that is on the human body. Maybe it's nothing. On the other hand, there is some research that indicates that too much fat in the body creates a number of problems. There is no research, to my knowledge, that says very little animal fat in the diet gives you problems.

"It strikes me that rational people might behave based on that information. That's not saying 'eat less meat' although there are those in our country who eat too much red meat, who eat too much, period."

"We'd like to try to define that issue," she says. "There's no one diet. My husband, who sits behind a desk all day needs to eat differently than my 11-year-old son. And they both need to eat differently than a pregnant woman."

When asked what beef-producing Future Farmers were supposed to produce if they weren't producing beef, Foreman explained that the question is "Will he produce 'fat' beef?"

"In pork the trend over the past 20 years has become substantially leaner, while up until recently, beef was growing fatter. Now the trend is switching again. I read a lot...it seems that there are a lot of cattlemen out there now that are breeding to get leaner animals and as fast as they can. I think they probably see the way of the future." She pointed out that the import beef entering the U.S. is not "steak" meat, but 89 percent lean and chiefly used to mix with the fat that is taken off U.S. cattle.

"It's always fascinated me that we must import beef to mix with the fat that we cut off our cattle—that we really didn't have to put on the cattle to begin with and that was fairly expensive to put on them. There may be some rational explanation for that," she smiled wryly, "but I'm not aware of it."

"Informed consumers...the best thing the American farmer could have."

Foreman said that it is also unlikely that a country that has 220 million people will go to *less* regulation. "I would hope we would have better regulation—more reasonable and rational regulation. The question is, 'Can this many people live together and be governed in a rational manner?' I think that's the goal."

For 5 of the last 6 years the selection committee of the Harriman Award has judged

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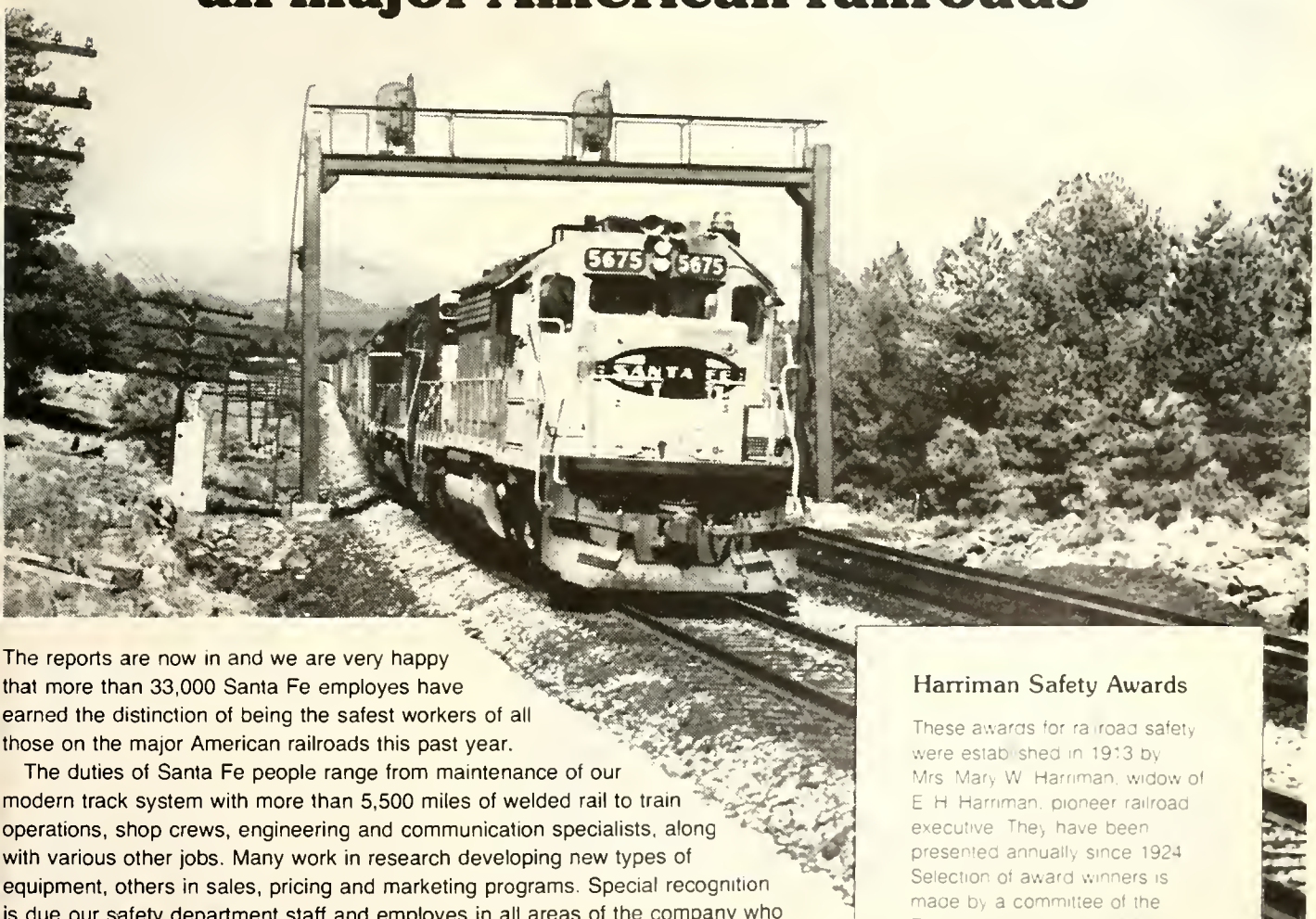

The reports are now in and we are very happy that more than 33,000 Santa Fe employes have earned the distinction of being the safest workers of all those on the major American railroads this past year.

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Over the past 15 years, approximately $2 billion has been spent to provide the tools and facilities our employes need to keep Santa Fe a modern railroad. Altogether, it takes safe workers and modern facilities to meet our customer's and the nation's need for progressive rail transportation.

Our employes have done a great job of making Santa Fe No. 1 in safety and for 5 of the last 6 years. That's quite a record and we think you'll agree it's "a hell of a good way to run a railroad!"

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These awards for railroad safety were established in 1913 by Mrs. Mary W. Harriman, widow of E. H. Harriman, pioneer railroad executive. They have been presented annually since 1924. Selection of award winners is made by a committee of the E. H. Harriman Memorial Award Institute using official safety statistics compiled by the Federal Railroad Commission. Accidents reported to the Federal Railroad Administration measured against man-hours worked as reported to the Interstate Commerce Commission are the sole basis for computing the safety ratios of each railroad and determining the winner.

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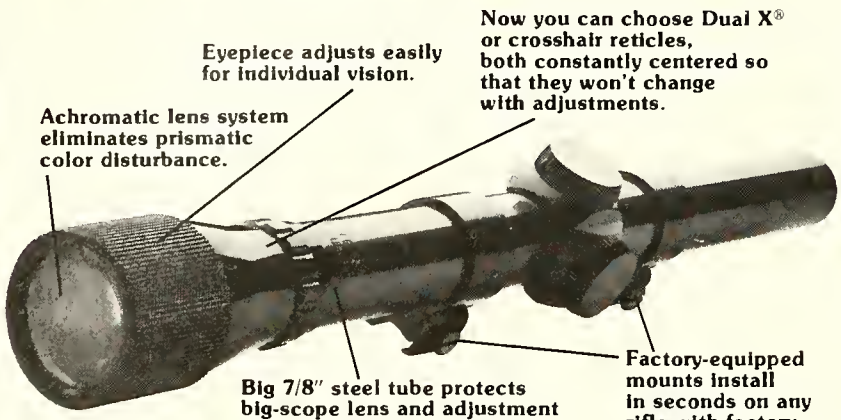
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From the Mailbag

(Continued from Page 10)

Elsberry, Missouri

Thank you for your excellent article on my seed business in the June-July issue. I have received several inquiries from potential customers because they had read the article.

Rob Lovelace

Oskaloosa, Iowa

The article ("Being Your Own Man", August-September, 1978) was great. I didn't expect to get on the cover. I really appreciate it. If you're ever past Oskaloosa again, drop in and we'll rope some calves; you're welcome anytime.

Jim Thorp

Sycamore, Illinois

I have been reading with much interest about the 50th anniversary of the FFA.

I had just started to high school when the FFA was organized and was a charter member of the Atwood Chapter when Illinois affiliated with the national organization in 1929.

You will remember our conversation some years back regarding the first corduroy jacket worn at a National FFA Convention. I was a member of my high school livestock judging team that represented Illinois in the national contest at Kansas City in November of 1932. The contest was held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention and the American Royal and both were held the first week in November in those early days.

Young people in those days were not much different from today. We had certain clothes that were "in style" which in our day was a matching pair of corduroy pants and jacket—either a royal blue or an ugly mustard color. When Eddie Quick, Myron Carroll and I were getting ready to go to Kansas City, we got together to see what we would wear. We decided on the royal blue corduroy pants and jackets. I remember going up the elevator in the hotel one evening when an advisor (from Ohio as I remember) was asking about our outfits.

The FFA Chorus came out with blue corduroy pants and jackets the following year and later the blue jackets became the official garment for the FFA.

There have been many changes in the jacket over the years such as doing away with the gold on the pockets and a few other things. I never knew if this was the reason for the adoption of the blue corduroy jacket but I know that I was one of the first three people ever to wear a blue corduroy jacket at a National FFA Convention. I have been to many FFA Conventions since 1932 and it always gives me a thrill to see the blue-jackets.

Incidentally, I was the high scoring individual in that national livestock judging contest and won a cash scholarship which enabled me to go to the University of Illinois and become a vocational agriculture teacher and an FFA advisor for 30 years. I am proud to be an Honorary Illinois State Farmer and an Honorary American Farmer.

Robert Howey
Sycamore High School

On another mountain . . .

New Way to Teach Safety

STALENESS in approach, the same "don't do this, you shouldn't do that," can numb people's minds to any message about safety. That's why new things must be done to help people young and old remain safety-conscious.

With Blue Mountain Union FFA, Wells River, Vermont, it is an approach at helping young people achieve safe habits early by using a program in the elementary classes that is similar to FFA's ag-oriented Food For America program, but along safety lines.

"By the time you get in to junior high school, you think you know it all," said one FFA member explaining why they chose to start at such a young age. "At that age, no one can tell you how to do it. I know I was that way."

The chapter decided to gear into the third-grade class. It was thought that this might be the right age, because third-graders are getting to the age where they might decide they could climb into the tractor seat and start the tractor. By hitting the students young, they could grow into their own safety habits.

"They took the proposal to the ag advisory committee and the school administration and obtained approval for carrying out the program on an annual basis," says Beverly Moody, FFA advisor.

The FFA members split the elementary classes into small groups with an FFA member to each three or four children. Coloring books were handed to the children with pictures in them representing aspects of farm safety like steering clear of strange pastures and animals, walking close to big animals and machinery, as well as care with chemicals. Earlier, the FFA membership had designed their own coloring book, including those cautions they felt suited their Vermont area.

"At this age (third-grade) they know how to read a little better and while they are coloring and enjoying themselves, they are also understanding what the pictures mean," said Amy Zambon, chapter president. Amy, on behalf of the chapter, presented the award of a big green toy tractor to the youngster with the most artfully done coloring book. The presentation was done during a return visit to the elementary classes which enabled the FFA members to see just how much the students remembered about the safety ideas in the coloring book. They were pleasantly surprised.

"I feel like I'm helping them," said an FFA participant. "And maybe not just them, but maybe they can teach their parents something too, by pointing out the safe way to do things."

Using coloring books to teach safety held the interest of third graders.

POSTSCRIPT

Safety is everybody's business. And we are never done teaching or learning it. After this story was obtained at Blue Mountain Union, a member of their chapter, Allen Zambon, who was chairman of the chapter's tractor-safety committee, died when a tractor overturned on him in a freak accident. He was push-starting his tricycle tractor—used only for pulling contests—because the electrical system had failed. As he gained momentum, it became apparent that the tractor would not start, so he went for the brakes and none were there.

After an accident like this, "if only . . ." becomes a usual phrase. We would like to do it over again but life is not like that. That is why we are never finished with the job of improving our safety consciousness—in promoting safety in all facets of our lives.

Open the Doors

(Continued from Page 15)

ceremony by the Greenhand officers.

Refreshments are important too. Do it nice for the ladies and moms but have enough chow for the dads too. Don't ask moms to do all the work. If you just think it through yourself or ask their advice and then do it, it will be fine. Keep it simple like coffee and cookies. Make a check list like cups, napkins, sugar, cream, coffee pot, stirrers, extension cord, table covering and a flower or FFA center piece.

Invitations could be mailed in advance and be either handwritten, typed or printed. Be sure to tell 'em all the facts like time, place, date, dress, purpose, and which way to enter—through the shop door in back or the front of the school. Invite the newspaper editor, radio announcer for your area, Farm Bureau, PCA, FmHA or SCS man or feed dealer, banker or implement dealer.

Be sure to arrange for adequate publicity both before and after the open house. Use the media such as newspaper, radio, TV or school newspaper, to announce and certainly to tell about the affair after it's happened. Take some black and white pictures for the paper, state FFA newsletter, *The National FUTURE FARMER* and the chapter scrapbook too.

Other details to consider: members should wear jackets and tie/scarves.

Get out and clean off some chairs for guests to sit on; be sure the nearest restroom is opened and unlocked; consider offering babysitting service for guests in another classroom; and help in the parking lot if it's crowded. Consider, too, some quiet background music.

One attraction might be a contest or door prize or drawing like "guess the weight of a pig in a pen" there in the shop, or the number of kernels in a jar of corn. Give away a ham, a flower arrangement or a newly built picnic table from the shop class.

Be certain all necessary clearances from school officials have been obtained such as permission, insurance coverages, help from supportive staff, use of the parking lot.

Handouts or gifts would be a good way to have the people remember the FFA open house. Several things are available from the FFA Supply Service like pens, pocket notebooks, litterbags or plastic drinking glasses.

If you've covered all bases you're ready for the guests to arrive. Put on a smile and have fun while you serve as hosts. The doors are opening wide for your vo-ag department./*By Jack Pitzer.*

FFA IN ACTION

CLASS ON THE RANGE

Through the help of the local Soil Conservation Service, members of the Pinedale, Wyoming, Chapter participated in an extensive range evaluation and conservation course this past spring.

The course consisted of two days in the classroom discussing range management tools and techniques followed by three sessions in the field actually identifying range sites and evaluating their conditions.

With the knowledge gained, several members of the chapter plan to participate in the FFA Range Judging contest to be held this fall near Buffalo, Wyoming. *(Clifford McClain, Advisor)*

A WHOLE DAY SQUEEZED INTO ONE NIGHT

The Forest Grove, Oregon, Chapter in cooperation with the Washington County Livestock Association Sheep Committee and the Oregon State University Extension Service hosted a novice skills sheep "Day." The evening session was full of activities for the 100 or so new producers and small flock owners from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the high school.

The parking lot area was set up with five demonstration stations. Each of the areas were conducted by prominent sheep producers of Washington County and Dr. John Minor of the Forest Grove Veterinary Clinic. The 20 minute sessions were foot trimming and care of the feet, handling techniques, health demonstration, internal and external parasites, and wool care.

After these demonstrations everyone went into the agriculture classroom for a lesson on nutrition. The evening concluded with a question and answer period and door prizes contributed by area merchants. *(Lori Lucas, Reporter)*

PLANNING AND PLAYING

In June, the Annandale, Minnesota, Chapter officers for 1978-79 (plus Advisor Red Petersen and his family) hopped on a bus and headed for the Lafayette Resort, located on Big Birch Lake just south of Grey Eagle, Minnesota.

Monday was spent setting up, getting to know each other, checking out a great fishing spot and learning the main points of being an officer.

Tuesday was spent making up a budget for the coming year, learning parliamentary procedure, more fishing, some swimming and also starting on the 1978-79 program of activities. Another officer, Connie Mol, chapter sweetheart, drove up in her dad's car and joined the team.

Wednesday we finished the budget. We also finished the program of activities and made some changes in the con-

(Continued on Page 42)

A PILE OF PEOPLE FOR PUBLICITY

Pennsylvania State Collegiate FFA would do anything to attract attention for their chapter including this human pyramid. Strong backs on the bottom from left to right are Jime Monte, Lynn Labor, Terry Coon and John Hartman.

A VERY SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Remembering a deceased friend or loved one with a memorial gift to your National FFA Foundation is an idea appropriate any time.

Special memorial gifts during anniversaries, birthdates, special events —whenever we feel the loss—are most appropriate.

A memorial gift to your National FFA Foundation becomes a living memorial—a thoughtful and meaningful gift. The knowledge that this tribute to a beloved friend or relative will help others is a good feeling for you and a comfort and inspiration to others. Your gift will help the FFA continue its mission. Your gift will have a positive impact on the future of America through the Future Farmers of America.

When a memorial gift is made, the family of the deceased is notified with a memorial card, carrying the name of the person for whom the gift has been given and the name(s) of the persons who made the gift. The amount of the gift is not indicated. An acknowledgement also goes to the contributor.

The name(s) of the persons in whose name the gift was received and the donor will appear in a special FFA publication.

You may request free memorial envelopes or send a memorial gift to your National FFA Foundation, P.O. Box 5117, Madison, Wisconsin 53705.

Please include the name of those being remembered; the complete address to which the memorial card should be sent and your address when you make a "Very Special Tribute."

We salute you — the Future Farmers of America — on your Golden Anniversary. You have truly had a golden past and are destined for a brighter future.

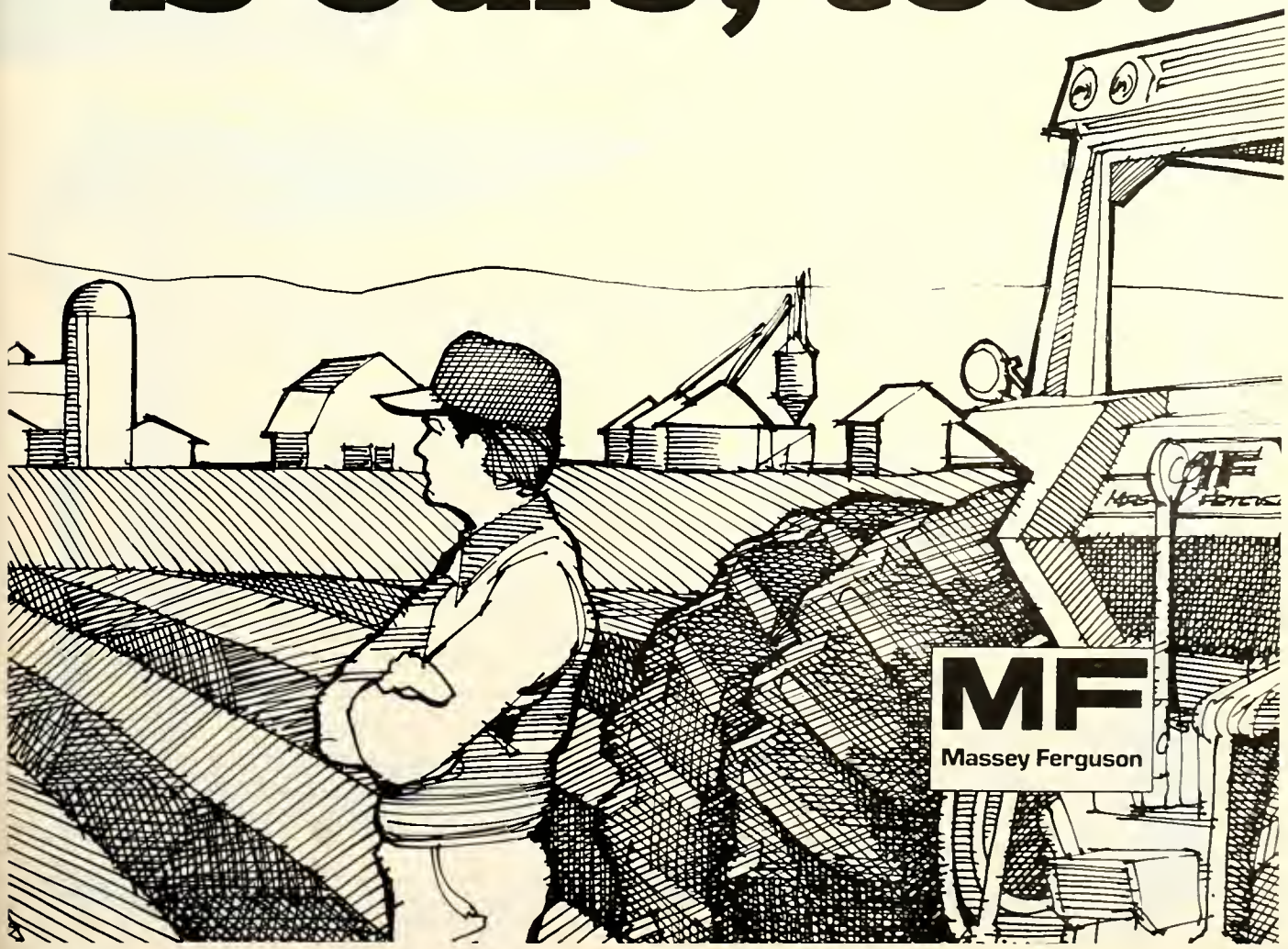
That's why Massey-Ferguson takes pride in its long association with the FFA — its members, its goals.

That's why Massey-Ferguson is proud to sponsor the FFA Crop Proficiency Awards on chapter, state, regional and national levels.

And that's why Massey-Ferguson is pleased to sponsor nationally-known news commentator Paul Harvey as a featured speaker at your 1978 National FFA Convention in Kansas City.

In agriculture today — and tomorrow — we'll keep on working for the bright future that we both share.

Your future is ours, too.



FFA IN ACTION

(Pick up the ACTION from Page 40)

stitution. Advisor Petersen also got very lucky fishing that night and caught a Walleye plus a 1-pound, 4-ounce Crappie. After that we went out to eat at a good eating spot just a few miles away.

Thursday we got up at 5 a.m. and went fishing where our advisor got lucky again and caught another Walleye. *(Don Laney, Reporter)*

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ANNIVERSARY ACTION

OLD WAY FOR NEW PAY

The South Jones, Mississippi, Chapter used oxen to skid and load logs out of their timber plot. School kids saw the old way and FFA raised enough to pay for steaks for a chapter banquet where the governor was guest speaker.

HAWAIIAN TRIBUTE

The House of Representatives of the state of Hawaii enacted House Resolution No. 347 "Congratulating the National Future Farmers of America on its 50th Anniversary."

The resolution was adopted during FFA WEEK and forwarded to National Advisor H. N. Hunsicker.

(Continued on Page 44)

GOVERNORS COME OUT

Above, Illinois Governor Jim Thompson and his wife feed lambs in an Auburn Chapter exhibit in the state capital. Below, Governor Jerry Brown greets FFA members at California State convention during the opening session.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN AGRICULTURE
50TH ANNIVERSARY
1928 — 1978
Future Farmers of America

WHEREAS, The Future Farmers of America (FFA) is an integral part of the Vocational Agriculture programs throughout the United States, and
WHEREAS, the FFA as an intracurricular student leadership organization has been synonymous with the goals of Agriculture Education, and
WHEREAS, this is the 50th anniversary year of the National FFA organization,
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the NVATA congratulate the National FFA organization in its 50th year celebration;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NVATA express its appreciation to all FFA members and agricultural educators past, present, and future who have contributed to its 50 years of success.

THE NATIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

Since 1958, our contributions have helped honor outstanding FFA members at the chapter, state, regional and national levels.

Also since 1958, our contributions have helped honor outstanding 4-H Club members at all levels—county, state and national.

Why we give outstanding ag students a pat on the back

In agriculture and everything associated with it, there's an ever-growing need for young people who are well trained, energetic and dedicated.

So we try to help recognize and encourage outstanding high-school and college ag students.

After all, we have a big stake in the future of agriculture—particularly livestock and poultry production.

Our business depends on farmers and ranchers who buy our feeds, minerals, parasite-control products and livestock equipment.

Within our Company, we also believe in recognizing jobs well done—among our 4,000-plus men and women from coast to coast.

Moorman Mfg. Co., Quincy, Ill.

Again, for the 19th year, we're sponsoring scholarships at agricultural colleges. They'll be awarded in 1978-79 at these 28 universities.

At each university, we contribute the same amount for MoorMan Scholarships. But the number and individual dollar amounts awarded at each university are determined by its ag scholarship committee. They also select winners—with no influence or interference from our company.

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Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Mo.
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Mississippi State University, Starkville
University of Missouri, Columbia
Montana State University, Bozeman
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
North Carolina State University, Raleigh
Ohio State University, Columbus
Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.
South Dakota State University, Brookings
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Texas A&M University, College Station
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wyoming, Laramie

FFA IN ACTION

(Pick up the ACTION from Page 42)

NATURAL TALENT

First place winner in a North Dakota State FFA talent contest was Cameron Hale, an American Indian and member of the Mandaree Chapter, located on the Fort Berthold Reservation. He will appear at the National Convention.

Photo by Dan Masseth

ANNIVERSARY ACTION

THE WEEK THAT WAS

The Imperial, Nebraska, Chapter was buzzing with activity during the 1978 National FFA WEEK. To begin the year they ordered extra FFA Calendars for the 50th year celebration.

On Monday morning the chapter sponsored faculty day with refreshments of cherry pie and chocolate-covered cherries to commemorate George Washington's birthday. Each teacher received a packet of FFA promotional items. Each school secretary received a blue and gold carnation corsage. The principal and superintendent were given boxes of chocolate-covered cherries to offer individuals who came into their offices that day.

Tuesday members drove tractors and trucks for the FFA Parade led by the local police after school.

A special committee chaired by Wes Hust, chapter reporter, contacted all local businesses collecting over $350 to sponsor a full page advertisement in the local weekly newspaper. Each business received an FFA promotional window sticker indicating they support FFA activities.

Officers of Imperial, Nebraska, FFA gave a 50th Anniversary flag to the school principal and superintendent.

An FFA information center featuring the standing display ordered from the Supply Service was set up in the school lobby during the entire week. *(Wes Hust, Reporter; Greg Hayes, Junior Secretary)*

THEIR OWN WEATHER MAN

Steve Duff, climatologist for the Farmington, Minnesota, FFA Chapter has just completed the first year's use of a weather station keeping track of the precipitation, humidity, high and low temperature, barometric pressure and wind velocity each day.

The FFA chapter purchased the weather equipment for the station with matching funds from the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR) special grant. This project was started in conjunction with Operation Rain Gauge in which many FFA chapters in Minnesota make reports on rain and snowfall in their location. These reports are then sent to the Office of State Climatology at the University of Minnesota. The reports received are used by the National Weather Service and others to get a better picture of rain and snowfall over the state of Minnesota. Every Tuesday, he submits the information gathered over the past week to the local newspaper, where it is printed for the public. *(William Turner, Advisor)*

(Continued on Page 46)

ANOTHER CARTER

Georgia State Officers toured grain storage facilities operated by Jack Carter, son of President Jimmy Carter.

Chapter climatologist Steve Duff at his self-constructed weather station.

ANNIVERSARY ACTION

A CAKE FOR THE OCCASION

When McGuffey, Pennsylvania, FFA celebrated the golden anniversary of FFA, Sandy Litman's mom made this cake. Other program features included remarks of past members from the '20s, '50s and '70s, and exhibit of old photos.

AN EXCHANGE TOUR OF AGRICULTURE IN ANOTHER STATE

A chapter exchange trip between Northeast Jones FFA in Mississippi and Valders FFA in Wisconsin resulted in a full schedule of farm and agribusiness firm visits plus recreational events being planned by the host chapters.

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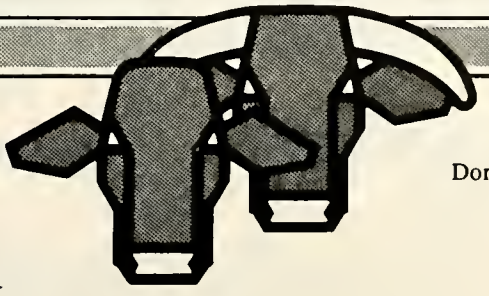

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Essay Contest Winners

Here are the winners of the essay contest announced in the June-July issue (Page 10). Their task was to take the 50th Anniversary theme (FFA at 50—A Golden Past—A Brighter Future) as the subject and write an essay. Chairing the panel of judges was Mr. Paul Gray, national FFA executive secretary retired and a former FFA Advisor.

First Place
Renee Cummings, Caldwell, Idaho
Vallivue FFA

Second Place
Margarette Davison, Alvin, Texas
Alvin FFA

Third Place
Lanny Wayne Harper, Eddyville, Kentucky, Trigg County FFA

Honorable Mention
Dwight Lee Mickey, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, Chambersburg FFA
Roger Adams, Brooksville, Kentucky
Bracken County FFA
Mike Taliaferro, Lawton, Oklahoma
Central High FFA
Ted Hoying, Minster, Ohio
Minster FFA
Alan McCullough, Milaca, Minnesota
Milaca FFA
Cynda Clary, Imperial, California
Imperial FFA
Robert Howey, Jr., Englewood, Colorado, Arapahoe County FFA
Doyle Karr, Wapella, Illinois
Wapella FFA
Tammy Smith, Oakland, Oregon
Oakland FFA
Robert Lopez, Othello, Washington
Othello FFA

The Winning Essay

FFA at 50

A Golden Past—A Brighter Future

By Reneé Cummings

What does the Future Farmers of America's brighter future depend on? Its people. Only through the toil of yesterday's FFA'ers has the structure of the organization failed to crumble beneath heavy opposition.

Because the FFA, like farming itself, was not built on casual fate or haphazard fortune, but by thoughtful planning and hard work, it is not brittle and fragile. It does not threaten to collapse in adverse condition.

Like any organization, the FFA stakes its tomorrow on the participation of each individual involved. As our country can only stand firm while its people believe in it, and work towards its prosperity, so can the FFA.

So what sets the FFA apart from any other organization? Again, the answer lies within its people.

The self-reliant spirit that drove our forefathers toward betterment of their way of life, government and self, still survives in the breed of people that find agricultural life satisfying.

In a world growing steadily full of people who simply "follow the crowd," the FFA has taught and trained their members to be individuals, to make their own decisions and to think for themselves.

Leaders, doers and achievers don't evolve from those who just "innocently stand by." Their origin is one of competition, pride and unity. They develop from an environment where personal involvement and encouragement thrive. Through the efforts of former Future Farmers and friends of the FFA they have built a platform on which the struggling newcomers can fashion their destinies. As living examples of the saying, "Actions speaks louder than words," they have become leaders and become successful through their efforts. Teaching members to be positive, fair and competent people, able to serve their families, farms, businesses and country is what the FFA is all about.

As we have looked back and found that many great leaders stem from the roots of the FFA, we look ahead and see that the FFA is continuing the great tradition of teaching its members independence, a trait our country was founded on, thrift, the gateway to tomorrow's financial success and cooperation, the key to peace between nations and people.

The FFA—insuring the world's tomorrow, by the people it's building today.

FFA IN ACTION

(Pick up the ACTION from Page 44)

PRIDE IN THE "BLUE GOOSE"

The Northmor FFA Chapter near Galion, Ohio, is proud of the bus they recently purchased from the local school board. The refinishing of the bus was done by vo-ag students with the exception of the FFA emblem which was painted by a local artist.

The bus is used in taking field trips and the chapter's annual 1,200-mile trip to Canada in June.

This is the third bus the chapter has purchased and its nickname given by the students is "Blue Goose."

HOW TO SURPRISE AN ADVISOR

When the McFarland, California, Advisor Mr. Mitchell Nidever talked about retiring after 32 years, the people of the community got together to repay

Advisor and Mrs. Nidever and the rig given them in honor of his retirement.

him and they pulled off a complete surprise at the annual banquet. They presented Mr. Nidever and his wife Suzanne with a 1978 custom pickup and a fully equipped 30-foot fifth wheel trailer.

ACTION LINES

- Ask Mom out to dinner. Dad, too.
- Work on your record books.
- Talk your advisor into cleaning up his desk.
- Volunteer to patrol a too-busy intersection after school.
- Learn to play the guitar.
- Send maple syrup out West. Send lava rocks back East. Send cheddar cheese down South. Send salted-in-the-shell peanuts North.
- Get the facts on defensive driving.
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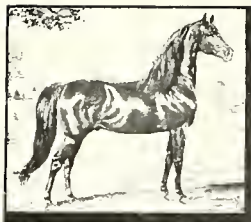

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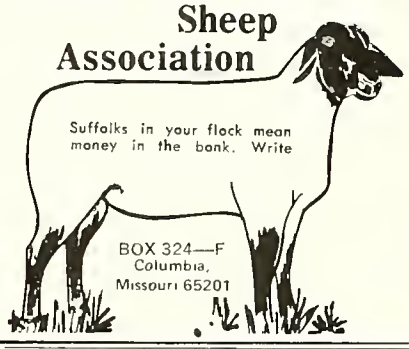

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Photos by Robb Boyd

President Carter shakes hands with the National Officers on his way into the crowd.

The Presidents Meet the President

THOUGH weariness from a trip abroad was first apparent, it was swept away by a huge smile as President Jimmy Carter saw the blue jackets of 92 state FFA officers that had gathered in the White House Rose Garden.

President Carter, in remarks to the FFA leaders gathered in the nation's capital for the annual State Presidents' Leadership Conference, recalled his own involvement as an FFA member. He said that it helped him to learn "how to be a leader in a small group," and to "realize how important it was to broaden my area of personal interest beyond the confines of my small town."

Carter said that his responsibilities were closely interrelated with the state presidents because of the common responsibilities they share and the leadership qualities and personal attitudes they must possess to lead FFA members across the country, as he leads the country.

It was the highlight of the State Presidents' Conference, sponsored by General Motors Corporation and designed to help new state officers lead more effectively by expanding their knowledge of the FFA and the nation.

Over 100 Congressmen and Senators attended the eleventh annual breakfast that directly preceded the White House visit and many more were represented by staff members. The breakfast, tabbed the largest in its 11-year history, was an opportunity for state officers to visit informally with their elected representatives and was a chance for Congressional leaders to discuss government with young leaders of the future.

A special flag raising ceremony at

After questions and answers, Bergland whips on his gift—an "FFA at 50" tie.

the National FFA Center had begun the week with each of the 51 state FFA associations presenting their state flag and citing their specific contributions to the National Organization since its inception in 1928.

Issues facing the industry of agriculture were discussed with a panel of experts knowledgeable of new trends in financing U.S. agriculture, agriculture's effect on the U.S. economy and ideas on energy and the world food outlook. This educational meeting assisted them in preparing for their visits to Congressmen and Senators on Capitol Hill and a question and answer session with Bob Bergland, secretary of agriculture.

"The future is bright, but it won't be an easy task for anyone without a background in agricultural leadership," said Bergland of the officer's potential leadership involvement in agriculture. Turning his attention to the present agricultural scene, he commented that at this time, our food economy is able to feed millions of hungry consumers, but that America can't feed the world; we must be interested in improving food production for these countries. "Eventually the poor need to be able to earn enough to buy from us."

Carol Tucker Foreman, assistant secretary for Food and Consumer Services in USDA was also on hand to answer questions, as was Jim Thornton, assistant director of the Farmer's Home Administration. He commended the FFA leaders for their involvement as citizens representing rural American communities, then witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the FmHA for their support, assistance and promotion of FFA's Building Our American Communities program.

Public speaking, small group dynamics, personal communication skills, knowledge of FFA and vocational agriculture, these and other leadership tools were sharpened during the week as the officers interacted with present and past national officers, national FFA staff members and government officials.

Not all the time during the week was spent honing their leadership skills. Time was available for inspiration and recreation as well.

Dinner at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts was followed by attending "The Wiz" a professional musical production held in the Kennedy Center's Opera House. A patriotic "Torchlight Tattoo" program presented by the Old Guard of the U.S. Army at the Jefferson Memorial on Wednesday was also taken in and time was taken for a wreath placing ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The group concluded the week with a banquet-buffet sponsored by General Motors.

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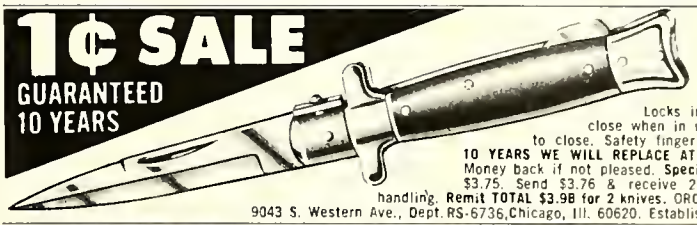

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School's Out, Fishing's In

By K. Elliott Nowels

THE alarm went off at 3:30 a.m. Three-thirty? In the morning? I didn't even know there was gravity at this hour. Andy Jombanis, a sophomore in the Bartow Chapter and my host for the night (however short it was), gingerly knocked on the door and questioned whether I had made it out of bed or not. I could hear him bounding away down the hall after my affirmative response. All that energy was rather repulsive.

My mission and reason for getting up early was to go fishing. Not just any kind of fishing, though, this is deep-sea fishing and off Florida's western coast in the Gulf of Mexico. Members of the Bartow, Florida, FFA Chapter have been doing it every year for about 28 years now, according to Advisor Robert O'Berry, who started the annual trip along about the time he started teaching vo-ag at Bartow.

"It's been a kind of reward for the members over the years," the older gentleman said. "It's something they can look forward to throughout the year and work toward." There are well over 100 members in the Bartow Chapter but the fishing vessel has room only for 40-some individuals so the selection is based on a priority point rating. Members are given points for participation in FFA activities throughout the year and the 40 members with the most points win a spot on the boat.

The bus was almost full by the time I climbed up and made my way to a seat near the front. Though some of the juniors and seniors in the group had not had any sleep yet that night, due to the high school prom and post-prom having been the Friday night (or rather, earlier on in the night) they were still able to engage in forming complete sentences and relatively coherent conversation. Some wide awake person near me was conducting his own tour, pointing out to whoever was interested (or awake) all the big phosphorus mines and other equally exciting things along the way. What space in the bus that wasn't taken up by bodies was taken up by food for the bodies to consume during the course of the day. By the size and number of coolers and paper bags one might have thought we were going to hook up with Magellan and try to go around the world again.

Upon reaching the docks after the two-hour ride, it was a different story. The early sun was shedding a few rays on the bus and it was like turning an irrigation system on over a truckload of Alka-Seltzer tablets. Things really started bubbling.

Everybody and his cooler, all more than awake now, rushed to the small plank that was the boat's only contact with its berth and clamored onto the craft to stake their claim on a place near the rail.

"Last year we went out on one of

Judy Bennett gets set to pitch her squid over the side.

those over there," O'Berry said as he pointed to two boats from another line docked nearby. "It was a little bigger than this one, but this one's newer." The boat was somewhere near 50 feet in length with a beam of about 12 feet. A covered cabin sat in the middle of the deck, sparsely furnished with benches and a table, all securely nailed down.

As we gradually lost sight of land, a few flying fish skipped up out of the water, gliding back into it about 25 yards distant. Every now and then you could see a porpoise or two arcing up from the waves.

Deep-sea fishing is the big activity annually for the Bartow members. There are other recreational activities, sure, but none talked about all year long like the fishing trip is.

"It's a nice way to end the year," said O'Berry, relaxing on board with his pipe. "The reports are in and school's about over, it's a nice time to get together, relax and have a good recreational activity."

It's considered a reward for the chapter and by glancing at Bartow's record you can see that a reward is well-deserved. Year after year they've been one of the top chapters in Florida and have won the national Gold Emblem award 14 times.

"I think members need recreation," said chapter President David White. "You work on contests, you work on building up your chapter. . .you've got to get off and have some fun now and then." David says that catching fish on this expedition is of no big consequence. "It doesn't matter. It's a time to go out and be with your friends."

But cooperation was extended by the fish, at least toward the first part of the day. We were about 20 miles off the coast and had not had the poles over the side long when someone on the port side of the boat, amid loud cheers and jeers from his fellow members, fought with and landed a Grouper that was about as big and round as his leg and three-fourths as long. Dieter, the deckhand on the boat, promptly rushed to the scene to assist in stringing the fish and plopping him into the waiting wooden bin.

The grinning member basked in the glory for a moment, eyeing the fish in the bin, then grabbed some more bait from the bucket of small squid at his feet and threw the line back in. Several times within a short period, the same scene occurred with different people hauling in larger and smaller Groupers and an occasional Red Snapper, a prize for the dinner table.

My line kept rising and falling with the boat. The only thing my hook had seen so far was the squid used to bait it and putting that slimy thing on had

Some members couldn't escape the "ocean motion," in or out of the cabin.

been a struggle. I was just contemplating how the fish knew where the squid were—whether they saw or smelled them—when something jerked on my line. Instinctively I jerked back and to my amazement the thing kept pulling. A big fish! Visions of giant sharks and swordfish straining at the end of my line flashed through my head as I tried to remember how to reel. I barely heard someone else straining equally as hard on the other side of the boat, both of us bracing our knee against the rail, pulling and winding. That's when a bystander informed us that we probably had our lines tangled up together underneath the boat. He was right.

It was about that time that a strange color, or possibly lack of it, began to appear on the faces of one or two of the people toward the front of the boat. The color was soon joined by some coughing and wheezing noises as the ocean motion took its first victims.

"It's rough today," O'Berry said. Our eyes casually caught sight of a young man on toward the front—his head on hands and elbows on knees. ". . .well, not all *that* rough, but rough," O'Berry began to smile as the boat rocked in three-foot swells. "Usually we don't have but one or two that get sick. But don't worry, a year from now they'll be all ready to go again." The sickness risk seems to be one the kids happily run to reap the pleasurable parts of the voyage. Early boasts of "iron stomachs" and other traits considered "he-man" seem to disappear out on the water but not without comment. A loose count indicated that near a half-dozen hugged the rail in the course of the day and that many more were quite inactive.

The boat was moved in search of fish several more times but with one or two exceptions, not much luck was to be had. I decided to go forward to the bridge to speak with the captain about it.

"I'm sure they're down there somewhere," he said, still in good humor. "If I had a spear gun, I'd send you down with it to get 'em." His attention was split between a graph that was being inked out on a special depth instrument and Dieter, who was aft and ready to throw out a small buoy at the captain's signal. A light gray area appeared on the graph indicating possible fish and Dieter pitched his bleach bottle into the water. The boat was brought around and anchored on that spot.

"We have normally been having a little better luck than this," the captain allowed me. "He confided that he had talked to two of the other pleasure boats and they had managed only two fish between them.

The sun had angled out and the return trip was pleasantly mellow. Many of the stomachs were beginning their trip back to normal and smiles were all over the boat. Folks were just relaxing. Many were keeping busy spotting Russian trawlers (obviously with spies on them) and a huge oil tanker that was underway with a group of dolphins frolicking along its bow.

Ernest Hodges, who claims to have been on every Bartow Chapter fishing trip but one in the years since the trip's inception, is watching a card game in the cabin. His son had gone on the first trip the better part of three decades before.

"Sometimes we catch 'em and sometimes we don't," the perennial fisherman smiled.

In any case, the sun was setting on a memorable day.

A Grouper is landed with a huge grin.

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Fish Farming

(Continued from Page 30)

Early problems encountered with torn nets, and sharks biting holes in the nets during attacks on the captive salmon have been reduced substantially with improved netting and redesigned pens. Losses from feeding birds have been eliminated with overhead netting.

"We feed mostly dry feed consisting mainly of fish protein, fish oils and soybean meal," says Lindbergh. "For our operation the fish are fed as much as five tons of feed each day."

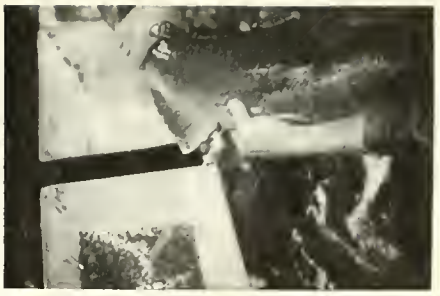
Jon and Ken help load a barge every few days with fish food which is then taken out and anchored near the pens. They then weigh out the appropriate amount of feed for each of the holding pens. Floating concrete walkways allow them to reach each pen.

Lindbergh admits the feeding could be automated. "But the fish don't always feed on the same amounts at the same time. Overfeeding a particular pen amounts to wasted feed and money. By hand feeding we can see exactly what we are doing. And we can save perhaps 10 percent on our feed conversion ratio."

At Domsea, the goal for feed conversion by the fish is about 1½ pounds of feed to 1 pound of gain. The weight of the food is a dry weight and the weight of the fish is wet, the actual dry weight to dry weight conversion is less.

Most saltwater fish farmers believe diseases are the most serious threat to successful commercial salmon farming. Mortality in netpens during early trials ran from 35 percent to as high as 60 percent. "Disease problems are increased in confinement feeding just as they are for other types of livestock," Lindbergh notes. To prevent the spread of Vibrio anguillarum, a bacterial disease which causes the most damage, fish are each vaccinated. They can receive the vaccine by several methods, including individual injection.

When the salmon are ready for marketing, they are chill killed and processed within 12 hours to preserve quality. They are gutted, glazed and placed in individual plastic bags. Most are marketed frozen and graded into size classifications ranging from four ounces to one pound. The biggest demand is for fish weighing from 8 to 14 ounces.



Eggs are taken from a "ripe" salmon.

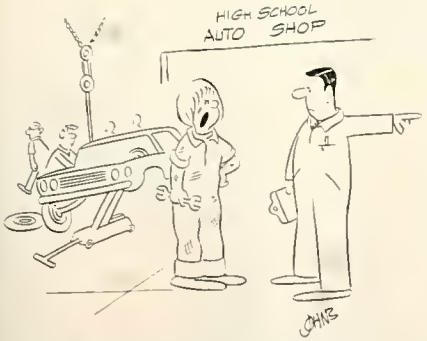
With the chill kill method, fish can be processed with minimal damage to flesh and appearance. With the efficiency brought about by processing the fish near their rearing site, freezing or marketing of the product can occur in half the time it takes in the wild state. A special dip is also used on the fish to extend the shelf life of the frozen products.

Lindbergh says fresh fish can now reach the interior United States without deterioration. Consumers can thus afford premium seafood at a reasonable price. Subsequently, many of this country's citizens are adding fish to their diets. Popularity of fish has also increased because of its reputation as a low fat nutritional food with low saturated fats.

The Domsea salmon were test marketed in a dozen major U.S. cities. Most all showed appetites for the small salmon. The two largest present outlets for the product developed in Minneapolis and Atlanta, according to Lindbergh.

The steady progress of the Domsea Farms project was possible, in part, because the program was financed mostly by Domsea's parent company, Union Carbide. The giant corporation was able to absorb losses during the early experimental years when multiple problems plagued the operation. However, Lindbergh feels when fish farming for salmon has been proven financially feasible, other companies will begin to form to take advantage of their findings.

"The number of fish available from the world's oceans is relatively stable in the balance of nature unless we enhance that environment," says Lindbergh. "Fish now make up around 10 percent of the total protein eaten in the world. To increase our desirable sea foods, we must supplement wild stocks with fish raised in captivity. We must become fish farmers as well as fish hunters."



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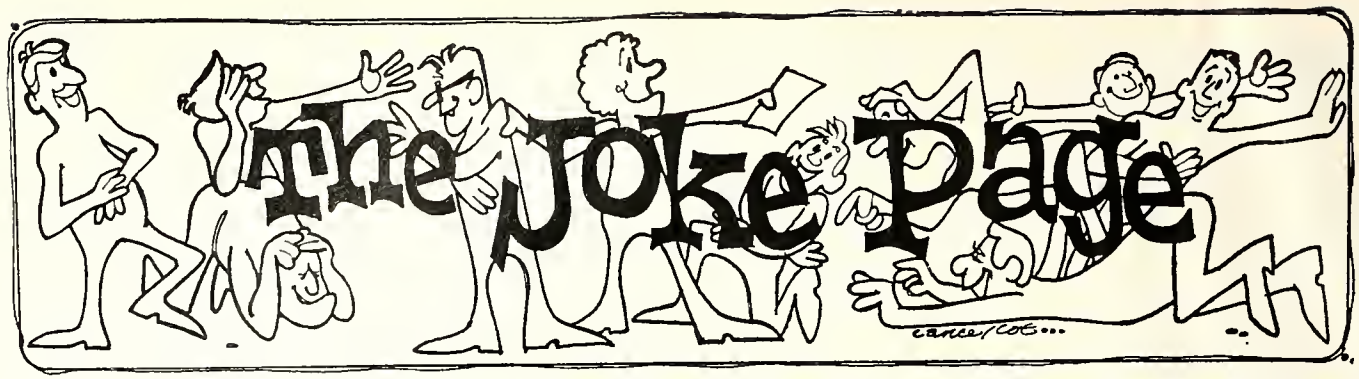


Used car dealer: *"We stand behind every car we sell."*

Prospective buyer: *"Yes, but will you help push?"*

Kim Rausch
Holycross, Iowa

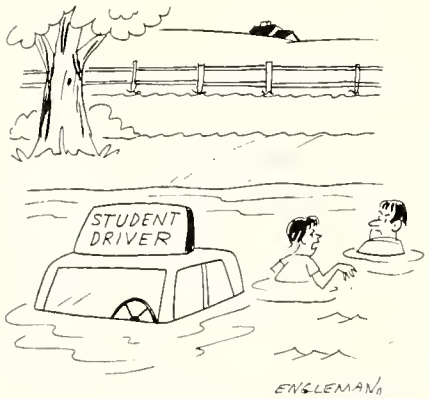
If you think fishermen are the biggest liars in the world, ask a jogger how far he runs each morning.

Norma Keith
Centerville, Ohio

Plumber (arriving late): *"Well, how is it going?"*

Happy husband: *"Not so bad. While we were waiting for you I taught my wife how to swim."*

Lonnie Tucker
Delhi, Louisiana



"You're not going to flunk me because I made one little mistake?"

Definition of a long hair: Someone who can listen to the William Tell Overture and not think of the Lone Ranger.

Randa Layne
Tyler, Texas

"Congratulations," said the psychiatrist to his patient, *"you're cured."*

"Some cure! Before I was Julius Caesar, now I'm a nobody."

Thomas Lamance
Modesto, California

Overheard on the bus: *"We've nicknamed our five-year-old 'Watergate.' He bugs everybody."*

J. Lambert
Bridgeport, Texas

"What good," asked the angry passenger *"are these railway time-tables?"*

"Why," patiently explained the genial agent, *"if it weren't for those figures we have no way of finding out how late the train is."*

Lonnie Tucker
Delhi, Louisiana

A car owner reported to police that thieves had victimized his car. *"They've stolen the steering wheel, brake pedal, the accelerator, the clutch pedal and the dash board."* Before the police could investigate, he called again. *"Don't bother,"* the man said with a hiccup, *"I got into the back seat by mistake."*

Chris Berglund
Cumberland, Wisconsin

Teacher: *"William, what do you know about Eskimos?"*

William: *"Not much except that I eat their pies."*

Kathy Meyer
Oxford, New Jersey

"You're the laziest person I ever met," the farm manager told the young hired hand. *"I don't believe you do an hour's work in a month. Tell me one single way the farm benefits from having you here."*

"Well," replied the hand after a moment's consideration, *"when I go on vacation, no extra work is thrown on the others."*

Trent Showalter
Harrisonburg, Virginia

The farmer from the old country kept his farm accounts in a cigar box.

"I don't see how you can run the farm this way," chided his son, a newly graduated economics major. *"How do you know where your profits are?"*

"Well, son," the father replied, *"when I came to this country I had nothing but the pants I was wearing. Today your brother is a doctor. You're an economics major. Your mother and I have a nice car, a farm and everything is paid for. So you add that all together, subtract the pants and there's your profit."*

Bobbie Mae Cooley
Bowen, Illinois

Barbershop sign: *"I need your head to run my business."*

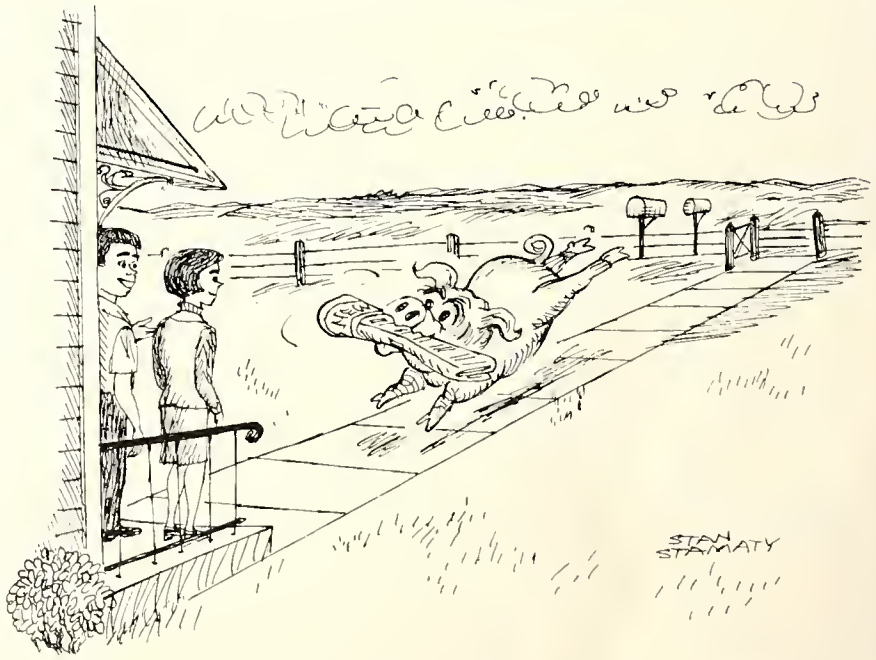
Anita Baerg
Butterfield, Minnesota

Overnight camper complaining to the ground manager: *"This is such a steep drop-off. Why haven't you put up a fence or a 'danger' sign?"*

Manager: *"We had a sign once and nobody fell over so we took it down."*

Jason Moore
Liberty, Kentucky

Charlie, the Greenhand



"Do you suppose he thinks that as long as he makes himself useful he won't go to market?"

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Fall Favorites

Recipe: Cut 2 lbs. venison into serving size pieces. Mix ¼ cup flour with 1 tsp. salt and fresh ground pepper to taste. Coat venison with flour mixture. Heat 3 tbsp. bacon fat in skillet and brown venison on both sides. Add 1 pc. celery, cut up and 3 sliced med. onions and brown. Add 1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce, 2 cups tomatoes and cook, covered, 1 to 2 hours (depending on age of animal) or until tender. Cook noodles, drain and serve with venison. Makes 4 servings.

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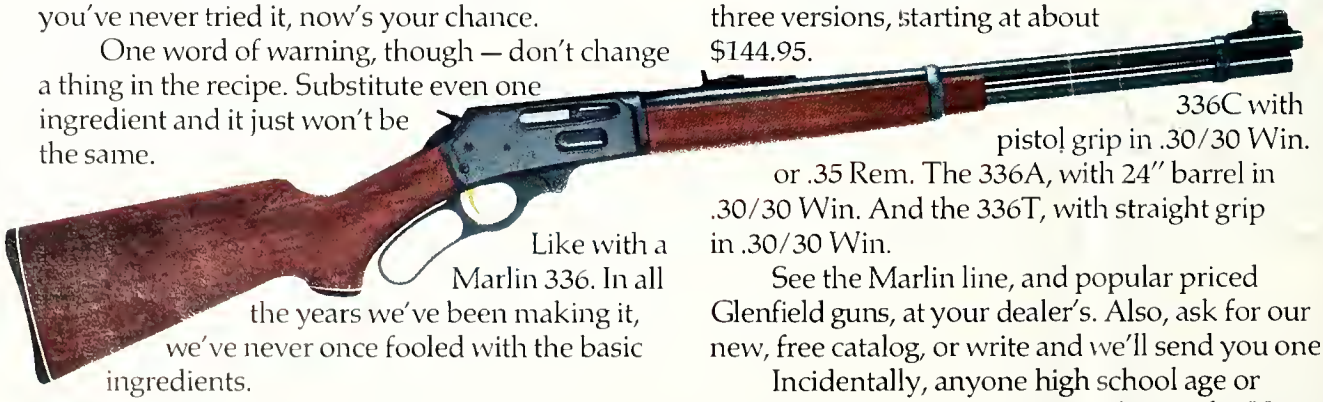
Just like there's no other way to prepare venison quite like West Texas Fried Venison. If you've never tried it, now's your chance.

One word of warning, though — don't change a thing in the recipe. Substitute even one ingredient and it just won't be the same.



Like with a Marlin 336. In all the years we've been making it, we've never once fooled with the basic ingredients.

For example, into every 336 go six solid, forged, machined, steel parts. Heat treated for greater strength and durability.

There's a simple, fast action. Adjustable semi-buckhorn rear and ramp front sight with Wide-Scan™ hood. Solid top receiver with side ejection for low, centered scope mounting. American black walnut stock. And Marlin's famous Micro-Groove™ rifling.

The result is the Marlin 336. Available in three versions, starting at about $144.95.

336C with pistol grip in .30/30 Win. or .35 Rem. The 336A, with 24" barrel in .30/30 Win. And the 336T, with straight grip in .30/30 Win.

See the Marlin line, and popular priced Glenfield guns, at your dealer's. Also, ask for our new, free catalog, or write and we'll send you one.

Incidentally, anyone high school age or younger can win up to $2000 in the Marlin Hunter Safety Essay Contest. Students must be enrolled in, or have completed a Hunter Safety Course. Write for entry form. Marlin Firearms Co., North Haven, CT 06473.

Marlin® Made now as they were then.